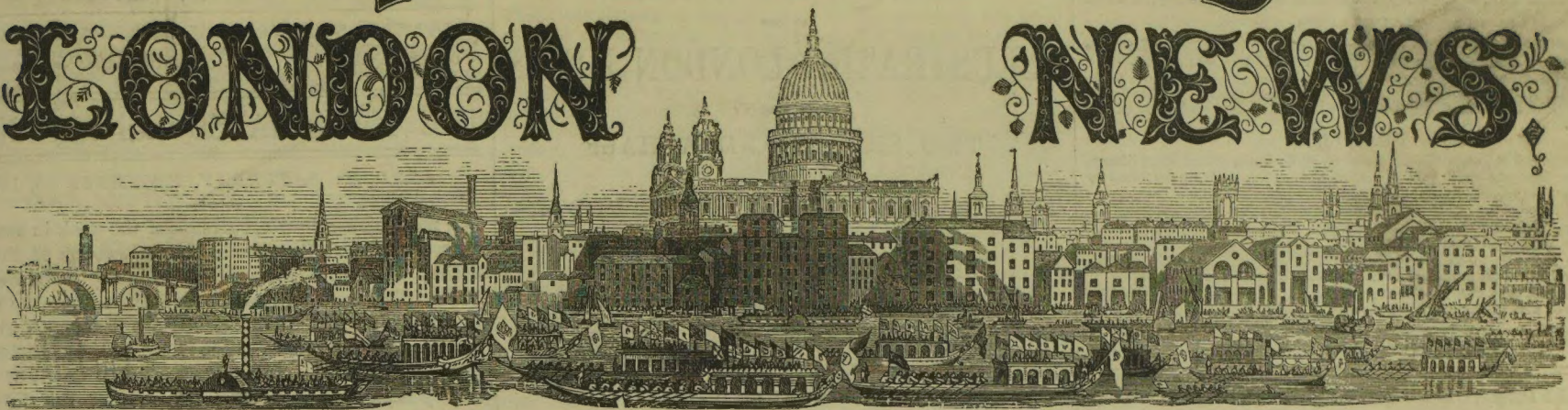


# THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

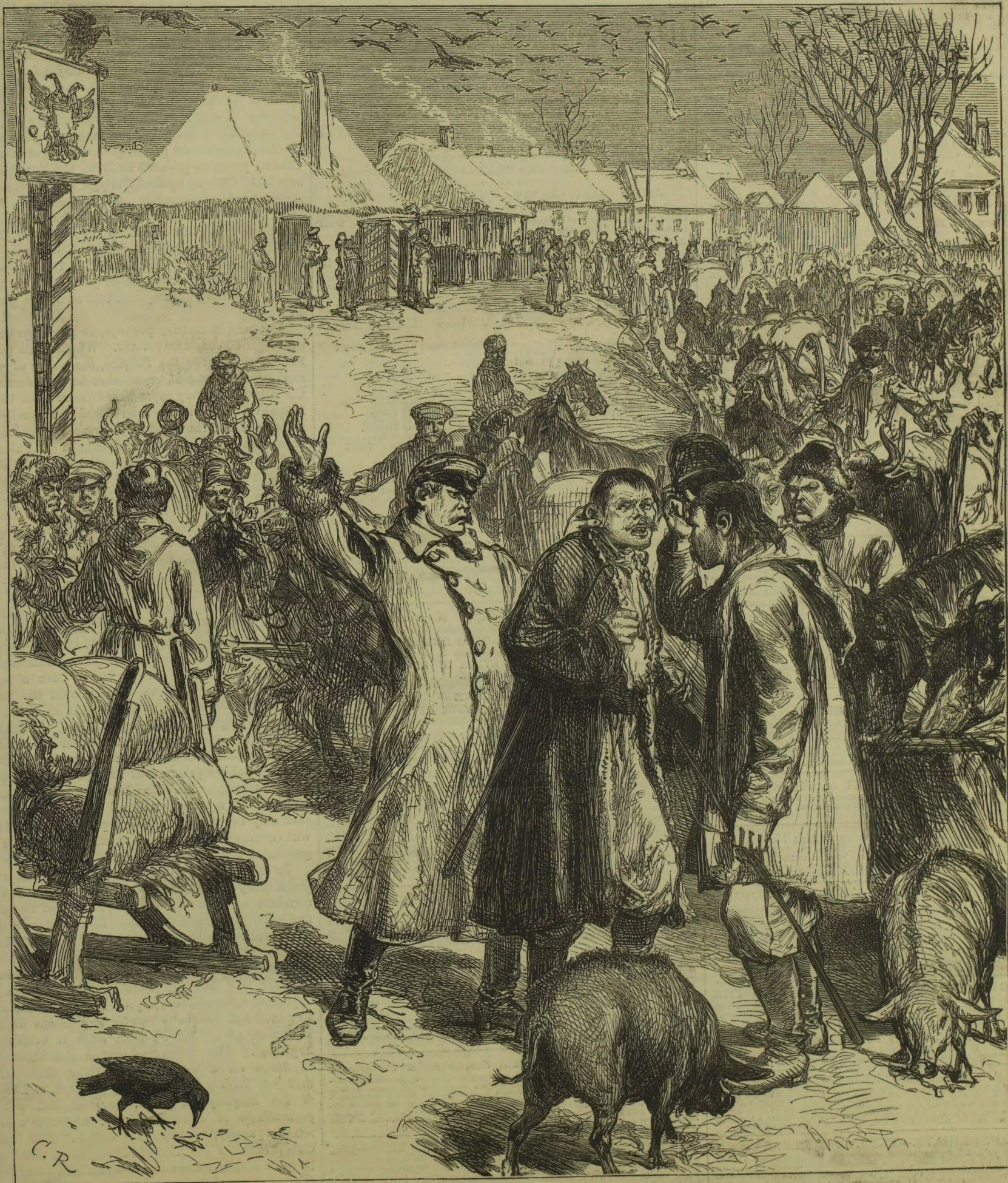


REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST-OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 1954.—VOL. LXIX.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1876.

WITH TWO SUPPLEMENTS {SIXPENCE.  
By Post, 6<sup>d</sup>.



WAR PREPARATIONS IN RUSSIA IMPRESSING WAGGONS AND HORSES FOR ARMY TRANSPORT AT NOVOSELITZA.



## BIRTHS.

On the 7th inst., at Wighill Park, Tadcaster, Lady Hawke, of a daughter.

On the 28th ult., at Government House, at Ottawa, Canada, the wife of Russell M. Stephenson, Esq., of a daughter.

On the 10th inst., at Heythrop, the Hon. Mrs. Albert Brassey, of a son.

## MARRIAGES.

On the 16th inst., at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, Captain Drury-Lowe, to the Hon. Lucy Needham, eldest daughter of the late Viscount Newry.

On the 21st inst., at St. George's, Hanover-square, Lieutenant the Hon. W. T. Wentworth Fitzwilliam, third son of Earl Fitzwilliam, to Miss Jessie Gordon Elgiva Mary Kinglake, daughter of Dr. Kinglake, and niece of the historian.

## DEATHS.

On the 16th inst., at 87, Lancaster-gate, Hyde Park, after a short illness, Julia, the dearly-beloved wife of David Cohen, Esq., deeply regretted by all who knew her. Australian papers please copy.

On the 14th inst., at 2, Hilldrop-road, Henry Conolly, aged 65.

On the 18th inst., at Orchard Wyndham, Taunton, Jane, Countess of Egremont, in the 78th year of her age.

On the 13th ult., at Le Havre, Jennetta, Contessa di Mortara, daughter of the late Josias Jackson, Esq., of St. Vincent, West Indies, aged 63.

On the 21st inst., at 18, Highbury-crescent, Elizabeth Charlotte, the dearly-loved wife of Richard Wright, aged 70 years.

\* The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

## CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING DEC. 30.

SUNDAY, Dec. 24.	TUESDAY, Dec. 26.
Fourth Sunday in Advent. George I., King of Greece, born, 1845. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Rev. William Russell; 3.15 p.m., the Rev. Canon Liddon; 7 p.m., the Rev. Arthur Blomfield, Vicar of Barking.	St. Stephen, Deacon and proto-martyr. Bank Holiday. Royal Albert Hall, vocal and military concert, 2.30 p.m.
MONDAY, Dec. 25.	WEDNESDAY, Dec. 27.
Christmas Day. St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., the Very Rev. Dean Church; 3.15 p.m. (no sermon). Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m., the Very Rev. Dean Stanley. St. James's, 11 a.m., the Rev. Francis Garden, Sub-Dean of the Chapels Royal. Whitehall, 11 a.m., the Rev. F. J. Jayne. Savoy, 11.30 a.m., the Rev. Henry White, Chaplain in Ordinary to the Queen. Temple Church, 11 a.m., probably the Rev. Dr. Vaughan, the Master.	St. John the Evangelist. The Freedom of the City to be presented to Captain Sir George Nares. Dinner to him and his colleagues by the Shipwrights' Company.
TUESDAY, Dec. 28.	THURSDAY, Dec. 29.
Holy Innocents. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Gladstone on the Chemistry of Fire). London Institution, 7 p.m. (Professor W. F. Barrett on Sympathetic Vibration: Sensitive and Singing Flames, &c.). Commercial Travellers' Schools, half-yearly court; elections. Lancaster and Northern Counties Poultry and Dog Show (two days).	Holy Innocents. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Gladstone on the Chemistry of Fire). London Institution, 7 p.m. (Professor W. F. Barrett on Sympathetic Vibration: Sensitive and Singing Flames, &c.). Commercial Travellers' Schools, half-yearly court; elections. Lancaster and Northern Counties Poultry and Dog Show (two days).
WEDNESDAY, Dec. 27.	FRIDAY, Dec. 29.
St. John the Evangelist. The Freedom of the City to be presented to Captain Sir George Nares. Dinner to him and his colleagues by the Shipwrights' Company.	Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone born, 1809. St. Anne's, Soho, Special service, 8 p.m. (Bach's Christmas Oratorio).
THURSDAY, Dec. 28.	SATURDAY, Dec. 30.
Holy Innocents. Royal Institution, 3 p.m. (Professor Gladstone on the Chemistry of Fire). London Institution, 7 p.m. (Professor W. F. Barrett on Sympathetic Vibration: Sensitive and Singing Flames, &c.). Commercial Travellers' Schools, half-yearly court; elections. Lancaster and Northern Counties Poultry and Dog Show (two days).	Full moon, 9.59 p.m. Royal Institution 3 p.m. (Professor Gladstone on the Chemistry of Fire). South Kensington Museum, 8 p.m. (Professor W. F. Barrett).

## THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.  
Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W.; Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF					THERMOM.		WIND.		
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum. read at 10 P.M.	Minimum. read at 10 P.M.	General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, read at 10 A.M. next morning.	Rain in 24 hours. Read at 10 A.M. next morning.
December	Inches.	°	°	°	0-10	°	°		Miles.	In.
13	29.789	37.7	36.1	94	0	43.8	34.0	SW. S.E.	112	0.005
14	29.897	41.7	37.0	85	10	44.6	34.0	E. S.E.	195	0.000
15	29.829	43.6	41.2	92	10	44.7	41.3	E.S.E.	300	0.050
16	29.758	43.3	41.6	94	10	44.8	33.8	E.S.E.	247	0.090
17	29.614	43.7	41.1	92	10	45.6	42.6	E.S.E.	238	0.335
18	29.215	43.2	42.4	97	9	40.3	40.8	E. S. E.N.E.	112	0.050
19	29.016	42.9	41.6	95	9	45.6	40.6	NW. E.S.E.	169	0.385

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:

Barometer (in inches) corrected	29.790	29.908	29.875	29.784	29.693	29.220	29.123
Temperature of Air	34.5°	42.6°	43.1°	42.4°	43.6°	42.5°	42.0°
Temperature of Evaporation	34.0°	40.8°	41.6°	41.7°	42.7°	42.1°	41.4°
Direction of Wind	WSW.	ESE.	ESE.	ESE.	ESE.	ENE.	NW.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE.  
FOR THE WEEK ENDING DECEMBER 30.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
7 10 17 34	8 0 8 30 9 0	9 34 10 10 10 44	10 10 10 44 11 17	11 17 11 47	—	0 17 0 45 1 14

## CHRISTMAS LECTURES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION OF GREAT BRITAIN, Alhambra-street, Piccadilly, W. Professor JOHN HALL GLADSTONE, Esq., Ph.D., F.R.S., will deliver a Course of Six Lectures (adapted to a Juvenile Audience) on THE CHEMISTRY OF FIRE, commencing on Thursday next, Dec. 23, at three o'clock; to be continued on Dec. 30, 1876; and Jan. 2, 4, 6, 9, 1877. Subscription to this Course, One Guinea (Children under sixteen, Half a Guinea); to all the Courses in the Season, Two Guineas. Tickets may now be obtained at the Institution.

SIX ELEMENTARY LECTURES on MINERALOGY, adapted to a juvenile class, will be given by Professor TENNANT, F.R.S., at his residence, 149, Strand, W.C., on JAN. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, at Ten a.m. and Three p.m. Terms, 10s. 6d. for the Course.

BRITISH MUSEUM.—In future the British Museum will be closed for the purpose of cleaning, &c., during the FIRST WEEK in FEBRUARY, the First Week in May, and the First Week in October, instead of, as hitherto, during the first week in January, May, and September.  
British Museum, Dec. 9, 1876. J. WINTER JONES, Principal Librarian.

THE SOCIETY OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. THE FIFTEENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN, 5, Pall-mall East. Ten till Five. Admission, 1s.  
ALFRED D. FRIPP, Secretary.

INSTITUTE OF PAINTERS IN WATER COLOURS. THE ELEVENTH WINTER EXHIBITION OF SKETCHES AND STUDIES IS NOW OPEN from Ten till Six. Admission, 1s.; Catalogue, 6d.  
Gallery, 53, Pall-mall. H. F. PHILLIPS, Sec.

DORE'S GREAT WORKS, "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM" and "CHRIST ENTERING THE TEMPLE" (the latter just completed), each 33 by 22 ft.; with "Dream of Pilate's Wife," "Christian Martyrs," &c., at the DORE GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Daily, Ten to Six. 1s.

MR. W. H. HOLMES'S NEXT PIANOFORTE CONCERT, LANGHAM HALL, DEC. 30.  
Programme and Tickets of Mr. W. H. Holmes, 36, Beaumont-street, W.

MR. and Mrs. GERMAN REED'S CHRISTMAS ENTERTAINMENT. Twice on TUESDAY and WEDNESDAY NEXT, at Three and Eight. MATCHED AND METED. Mr. Corney Green's TABLE D'HÔTE, and OUR DOLL'S HOUSE: a Fairy Vision in One Peep. EVERY EVENING, except Thursday and Saturday, at Eight; every Thursday and Saturday at Three. Admission, 1s., 2s.; Stalls, 3s. and 6s.—ST. GEORGE'S HALL, Langham-place, Oxford-circus.

CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS.—TWELVE HOURS' SKATING for One Shilling and Sixpence (including the use of Plimpton's Skates) at the Most Magnificent Rink in the World, THE MARBLE, 143, Clapham-road, near Reigate-gate, which during the Christmas Week will remain open from Ten a.m. to Ten p.m. The band will play at intervals during the day. Tram cars and omnibuses pass the entrance.

Now Publishing,

THE

## CHRISTMAS NUMBER

OF THE

## ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

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TWO SHEETS AND A HALF

OF

TALES AND ILLUSTRATIONS,

AND A

LARGE COLOURED PICTURE

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ASTRONOMICAL DIAGRAM OF REMARKABLE PHENOMENA,

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REGENT-STREET AND PICCADILLY.

CHRISTMAS AND NEW-YEAR'S HOLIDAYS,

1876-7.

THROUGHOUT THE HOLIDAYS

THE MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS

will give

SPECIAL PERFORMANCES of their NEW and GLORIOUS PROGRAMME

in the following order:—

TUESDAY AFTERNOON (Boxing Day)	.. ..	at TWO.
TUESDAY NIGHT	.. ..	at SEVEN.
WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON, DEC. 27	.. ..	at THREE.
WEDNESDAY NIGHT	.. ..	at EIGHT.
THURSDAY AFTERNOON, " 28	.. ..	at THREE.
THURSDAY NIGHT	.. ..	at EIGHT.
FRIDAY AFTERNOON, " 29	.. ..	at THREE.
FRIDAY NIGHT	.. ..	at EIGHT.
SATURDAY AFTERNOON, " 30	.. ..	at THREE.
SATURDAY NIGHT	.. ..	at EIGHT.

AND THROUGHOUT THE WHOLE OF THE FOLLOWING WEEK

Performances will be given

EVERY DAY AND EVERY NIGHT

at the same hours.

FIFTY ARTISTS OF KNOWN EMINENCE.

Doors open for the Day Performance on Boxing Day at One; for the Evening Performance at Six; on all other days the doors will be opened at Two and at Seven.

NO FEES. No Charge for Booking Reserved Seats.

Great Area and Gallery (2500 Seats) .. ONE SHILLING.

Balcony .. .. TWO SHILLINGS.

Stalls .. .. THREE SHILLINGS.

Fauteuils .. .. FIVE SHILLINGS.

Places can be booked at the Hall Daily from Nine a.m. till Seven p.m.

OMNIBUSES RUN FROM EVERY RAILWAY STATION IN LONDON DIRECT

TO THE DOORS OF THE HALL.

EVERY WEST-END OMNIBUS ALSO RUNS TO ST. JAMES'S HALL.

ST. JAMES'S GRAND HALL.  
During the CHRISTMAS and NEW-YEAR'S HOLIDAYS

THE MOORE AND BURGESS MINSTRELS

will give Performances

EVERY DAY AT THREE AND EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT,

until Saturday, Jan. 6.

ON BOXING DAY

THE AFTERNOON PERFORMANCE

WILL COMMENCE AT TWO O'CLOCK.

Doors Open at One. On all subsequent Days the Afternoon Performances will

commence at Three.

ALL THE EVENING PERFORMANCES COMMENCE AT EIGHT.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES.

BOXING and SUCCESSIVE DAYS. New Grand Spectacular Pantomime entitled SINDBAD THE SAILOR. Written especially for the Crystal Palace by the Brothers GRIM. New and elaborate Scenery by Mr. Julian Hicks, Mr. Edwards, Mr. F. Fenton and Assistants. THE GRAND TRANSFORMATION SCENE, ECHO AND NARCISSEUS, invented and Painted by Mr. Charles Brew. Ballets arranged by Miss Barbara Morgan. Dresses by Auguste et Cie. The Music arranged and composed by Mr. Oscar Barrett. The Stage Management has been intrusted to Mr. Augustus Harris. The whole produced under the direction of Mr. Charles Wyndham. The characters sustained by Miss Edith Bruce, Miss Bella Goodall, Mr. Collier, the celebrated Le Vite and Nina, Austin, Hess, and other artists. Preliminary Entertainment on Boxing Day, Wednesday, and Thursday, comprising the Dalvins in their Japanese Entertainment, Albini, Velocipede Feats, the Brothers Garbella, the Jeas, musical clowning, Punch and Judy, &c. Numbered Stalls, Half a Crown, may be booked in advance; Unnumbered Seats, One Shilling.

CRYSTAL PALACE.—SINDBAD THE SAILOR.—GRAND

CHRISTMAS PANTOMIME.—Magnificent and Romantic Scenery, painted by Mr. Julian Hicks and Mr. F. Fenton, and comprising several novel mechanical and artistic effects. Principal Scenes:—The Seaport and Slave Market of Bassorah—The Ship at Sea—The Summer Abode of the Diamond Queen—The Cavern of the Old Man of the Sea—The Valley of Diamonds—The Panorama of the Valley—The Boiling River of the Island of the Pigmies—Exterior of the Palace of the King of Dahomey—The Harem—The Dungeons of Starve-Em-Alive, under the King's Palace—Comic Scenery—Trafalgar-square—Come like Shadows, so Depart—London Frozen Over, by Moonlight—Skating Ballet.

THEATRE ROYAL COVENT GARDEN.—On TUESDAY,

DEC. 26, and Following Evenings, ROBINSON CRUSOE. With Scenery and Transformation by Mr. W. Tebbin. "The most powerful company ever collected. Children and Schools Half Price to Day Performances on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays. Box-Office open daily from Ten till Five, under the direction of Mr. E. Hall.

LYCEUM THEATRE.—Sixth Season under the present

Management. EVERY EVENING, Saturdays excepted, at 7.45, MACBETH—Mr. Henry Irving; Messrs. Swinbourne, Brooke, Mead, Beutley, Lyons, Archer, Beaumont, Lowther, Huntley, &c.; and Miss Bateman (Mrs. Crowe). Reproduced with all the original effects. Scenery by Harry Craven. Music by Mr. Stoepel, &c. Preceded, at Seven, by DIAMOND CUT DIAMOND—Messrs. Caron, Lyons, Bentley, Piere, &c. SATURDAY, DEC. 30, Morning Performance of MACBETH at Two; Saturday Evening, LEAH. Box-Office open Ten till Five.

NATIONAL STANDARD THEATRE, Bishopsgate.

OPEN SESAME; or Harlequin the Forty Robbers of the Magic Cave. New Grand Comic Pantomime. EVERY EVENING at Seven. Morning Performances BOXING DAY, DEC. 26, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 27, THURSDAY, DEC. 28, SATURDAY, DEC. 30, and every Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at 12.30, to which Children under Ten half price. Box-Office open Eleven till Four. No charge for Booking.

THEATRE ROYAL, DRURY-LANE.—EVERY EVENING,

THE FORTY THIEVES. The Vokes Family. Première Danseuse, Mlle. Boesl. Double Harlequinade. Clowns, C. Lauri and F. Evans. Preceded by BOX AND COX. Prices from 6d. to 54 4s. Doors open at 6.30; commence at seven. Box-Office open from Ten till Five daily. Morning Performances every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Doors open at 1.30, commence at Two. Children and Schools admitted at half price to all parts of the Theatre, Upper Gallery excepted.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—SI SLOCUM, in which THE

FRAYNE FAMILY (the Kentucky Rifle Team) will appear. Preceded at Seven by BOOTS AT THE SWAN. Miss Gerard, Mr. W. J. Hill. Box-Office open daily from Eleven to Five.

## THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 1876.

The most momentous occurrence of the week in connection with the Eastern Question is the resignation of the Grand Vizier, Mehemed Rushdi Pasha, and the elevation of Midhat Pasha to the post of political supremacy vacated. In spite of official denials, it has been tolerably well known for some time past that a profound difference of judgment in regard to the future government of Turkey widely separated these two servants of the Sultan one from the other. The late Grand Vizier, whatever may have been the view which he took of the coming destiny of his country, was not prepared to meet it by changes affecting the fundamental principles upon which the Ottoman Empire rests. Midhat Pasha, on the other hand, has been sanguine in the belief that the Constitutional system of Turkey might be assimilated by bold reforms to those of the nations of Western Europe. To put some restriction upon the arbitrary will of the Sovereign, to curtail the authority of the Grand Vizier, to place every Cabinet Minister in direct relations with the Sultan, and to develop Ministerial responsibility by means of representative institutions founded upon a broad popular basis, appear to have been the principal elements of the new system which Midhat Pasha has laboured energetically and perseveringly to introduce. The new Sultan seems to have inclined to the adoption of Midhat's views; the promulgation of them in an Imperial Charter probably presents itself to the Turkish Sovereign as a last resource against Foreign Interference and, possibly, Foreign Occupation; and hence it may be expected that before the Conference of Plenipotentiaries at Constantinople are in a position to announce the will of Europe in regard to the disturbed provinces of Turkey Midhat Pasha will have published plans of Reform transcending in their extent of promise those likely to be agreed upon by the Representatives of the guaranteeing Powers.

It would be unfair, perhaps, to prejudice the sincerity of Midhat Pasha's intentions. Whether his purpose has been to regenerate the Empire, the policy of which he is now called to control, or whether he has planned his new Constitution merely as the best instrument that can be forged to stave off the intervention of Foreign Powers, must be left to the decision of events. Certain it is that, even if backed by the full authority of the Sultan, he will find himself unable to give practical effect to his scheme. As what we may call a radical Reformer in profession, he needs to be upheld in his political course by public opinion. In Turkey there is no such thing as public opinion. There is no political intelligence. The only approximation to it is to be found among the Softas, and they are Moslems to the heart's core. Equality between the dominant and the Christian Races—equality, we mean, in the eye of law and before the Tribunals of Justice—would be a state of things quite outside the range of their conception. They would be opposed to it on religious grounds, as would their co-religionists in the Provinces. They would resist it even more obstinately on social grounds; for to every Turk a position of ascendancy over such as do not hold the faith of the Prophet is looked upon as a right, the abolition of which would be regarded as a degradation. Practically considered, the grand reforms elaborated with so much care by the present Grand Vizier could be documentary only. Nothing but the pressure of foreign authority could give them substance. He either knows this or he has deceived himself into a transient belief of it. But, however the case may be, the anticipatory publication of his scheme will encourage his countrymen and himself to reject any guarantee which the Conference may agree to demand.

In other respects, the Conference promises well. The preliminary interchange of views between the different members of it has brought out into relief the possibility, and even probability, of their concurrence in the work they were severally appointed to perform. The impression made by the demeanour of Lord Salisbury, and the close approach to a thorough understanding between General Ignatieff and himself, have already led to a sanguine expectation that some compromise of differences between England and Russia is not by any means unattainable. The tone of feeling on both sides is evidently much improved. The determination of the Russian people to force on a war between their Government and that of Turkey has sensibly abated. The decision of her Majesty's Cabinet, as shadowed out by the proceedings of Lord Salisbury, whatever else it may fail to imply, renders it certain that the better Government of the Christian Subjects of the Sultan is to be dealt with in some manner which will make it a reality. Where the end is resolved on adequate means for its attainment must be sought out and accepted; and if, in



the last resort, no other means can be found, the occupation of Bulgaria by Russia under reasonable checks and limitations will have to be assented to. In the absence, however, of any strong desire on the part of Russia to carry out her first design, there would seem to be no insuperable obstacle in the way of hitting upon some other and more moderate form of guarantee. In fact, various other forms have been mooted and discussed, nor is it by any means to be taken for granted that a united conclusion upon this difficult and delicate matter may not eventually be arrived at.

In that event, what is it likely that Turkey will do? Will she, as her Rulers threaten on her behalf, reject the demands of united Europe; isolate herself from the Comity of Nations, and stake her whole future upon a war in which she cannot hope to be permanently successful. We doubt it. We do not shut our eyes to the fact that for her to yield to the demands of the guaranteeing Powers may expose her to almost as great an immediate danger as to refuse them. But the present peril may be got over. The remoter one is quite as certain as any which can now beset her, and far more disastrous in its issue. She will try every expedient to evade so critical a decision. She will endure the pressure put upon her to no inconsiderable extent before she will make up her mind to give way. But if England and Russia, followed by the other Powers, insist upon her acquiescence, and especially if the former makes it clear that her support, under any circumstances, will not be given to the Government of the Sultan, it is, we think, more than possible that war may be avoided.

### THE COURT.

The Queen received at dinner, yesterday week, at Windsor Castle, Prince and Princess Christian, the Duke of Cambridge, and the Lord Chancellor. The Earl of Beaconsfield had an audience of her Majesty on Saturday last. Lieutenant-General Sir T. M. and the Hon. Lady Biddulph and Sir William Jenner dined with the Queen. On Sunday her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and the Prince of Leiningen attended Divine service in the private chapel of the castle. The Rev. Arthur Robins, M.A., Rector of Holy Trinity, and Chaplain of her Majesty's household troops, at Windsor, officiated. The Prince of Leiningen lunched, and the Dean of Windsor and the Hon. Mrs. Wellesley dined, with the Queen. On Monday her Majesty and Princess Beatrice visited Princess Louise of Lorne and the Marquis of Lorne at Dornden. They travelled by a special train on the South-Western and South-Eastern Railway to Tunbridge Wells, and were met by the Marquis at the railway station, whence they drove to Dornden. After a stay of about three hours, her Majesty and the Princess returned to Windsor. The Earl of Beaconsfield had an audience of the Queen on Wednesday. Her Majesty, with Princess Beatrice, has taken daily out-of-door exercise. The Marchioness Dowager of Ely has arrived at, and the Duchess of Roxburghe and the Hon. Horatia Stopford have left, the castle. The Earl of Dunmore and Colonel the Hon. Augustus Liddell have succeeded Lord de Ros and Captain Charles E. Phipps as Lord and Groom in Waiting.

Her Majesty has conferred upon Lord Redesdale an earldom of the United Kingdom, under the title of Earl Redesdale, of Redesdale, in the county of Northumberland.

The Queen's Royal bounty to the poor of the metropolis and its environs has been distributed at the Almonry Office, Whitehall, as usual, this week, to persons recommended by the clergy resident in and about London. The number relieved in the sums of 5s. and 13s. each exceeded in the aggregate 1000, the ages of the recipients varying from sixty to ninety-five years, many of whom being blind and otherwise afflicted.

### THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales returned to Marlborough House, yesterday week, from visiting the Queen at Windsor Castle; and, in the evening, went to the Court Theatre. On Monday their Royal Highnesses left town on a visit to the Earl and Countess of Leicester at Holkham Hall, where a distinguished company had assembled, including Count and Countess Gleichen. The Prince has had excellent sport, shooting.

Prince and Princess Christian have arrived at Cauford Manor on a visit to Sir Ivor and Lady Cornelia Guest.

Princess Louise of Lorne, yesterday week, opened the first exhibition of the London Schools Association for the Improvement of Elementary Needlework, which was held at the Royal Albert Hall; and the next day the Lady Mayoress, accompanied by Sir Thomas White, distributed the prizes there to the successful competitors, about 160 in number.

The Duke of Cambridge presided at a dinner given at Willis's Rooms, on Tuesday, by the officers who formerly served in the 12th (Prince of Wales's Royal) Lancers to the officers at present serving in the regiment, previous to their embarkation for service in India. Covers were laid for upwards of 160.

Prince Adolphus of Teck is making satisfactory progress towards recovery.

The marriage of Captain Drury Lowe, eldest son of Mr. and the Hon. Mrs. Drury Lowe, of Locko Park, Derbyshire, with the Hon. Lucy Needham, eldest daughter of the late Viscount Newry, M.P., was solemnised at St. Paul's, Knightsbridge, on Saturday last. The aisle of the church was lined by thirty-two girls of the Hans Town Training School, in which the bride had been actively interested, dressed in dark blue cloaks with white straw hats and blue ribbons. The bride, who was accompanied to the church by her mother, and given away by her brother, Viscount Newry, wore a dress of white satin, trimmed with white fox. In her hair were sprigs of orange-blossoms, fastened by a band of diamonds, and covered by a long tulle veil. Her other jewels were diamond earrings and locket, gifts of the bridegroom and of the Hon. Mrs. Drury Lowe. The bridesmaids were the Hon. Mary Needham (her sister), the Hon. Blanche Colville, Miss Hill-Trevor, Miss Nina Hill-Trevor, Miss Dorothy Simeon, Miss Ridgway, Miss Florence Drury Lowe, and Miss Violet Smith. Their dresses were of white cashmere, trimmed with swansdown, and cardinal plush bows and hoods; hats of white felt, trimmed to match. Each wore a gold-and-enamelled locket, with the initials "W. L." in the centre, presented by the bridegroom. Colonel Drury Lowe (17th Lancers) attended as his brother's best man. The ceremony was performed by the Hon. and Rev. Robert Liddell, M.A., Vicar of St. Paul's. After the wedding breakfast, at Viscountess Newry's residence in Eaton-place, Captain and the Hon. Mrs. W. Drury Lowe took their departure for Dover, en route for the Continent.

## The Extra Supplement.

### GRANDFATHER'S BIRTHDAY.

There was something highly genial in the domestic life of a genuine old-fashioned "grand seigneur" of France, in the age of Henri Quatre, or even throughout the early part of the seventeenth century, before the Court of the "Grand Monarque" had fostered a more artificial style and code of manners. This picture, by a French artist, shows the patriarchal character of the head of a noble family, seated in state amidst the younger members of the household, who pay him a natural sort of homage upon the seventy-fifth anniversary of his birth. It is, indeed, only a becoming, graceful, and dutiful act upon their part, quite irrespective of aristocratic rank, to show their reverence as well as their tenderness, for the aged grandsire who has no doubt borne his part worthily through a long life of manifold beneficence, and to whom each of them is personally bound in their common kindred. But we remark the dignified formality of their approach; the ladies foremost, of course, with his eldest son's wife, as we suppose, bringing up her little girl, his favourite pet grandchild, to kiss the good old man and wish him many happy years more; the eager boy, with a written scroll in his hand, from which he is to read a few verses of poetical congratulation; the son or son-in-law, a stalwart cavalier, with top-boots and long rapier; and the pleasant group of sisters, all intent on the due performance of this interesting ceremony. Each will presently come forward, in their proper turn, to offer more particular assurances of their kindness and respect, and to drink the very good health of Monseigneur le Grandpère—to which let us say, Amen.

### RUSSIA AND THE CONFERENCE.

While a pacific and conciliatory tone seems to pervade the diplomatic discussions at Constantinople, there is no abatement of the military preparations in Russia. The Engraving on our front page, from a sketch by one of our Correspondents and Artists, shows the scene in the rustic market-place at the village of Novoselitsa, when the Government officers pressed into the transport service all the waggons and horses of the peasantry required for the conveyance of warlike stores to the frontier.

The preliminary Conferences, to which the representatives of Turkey were not admitted, came to an end last Wednesday. The Ambassadors and Special Commissioners of the Six Powers, Russia, Great Britain, Austria, Germany, France, and Italy, have agreed upon certain propositions, which are referred to their respective Governments for approval. It is stated that this approval has been signified by telegraph from their respective capitals. The next stage of the proceedings is to bring them in due form before the plenary Conference, when the Sultan's Government must either submit to their being recorded as the decision of Europe with its express assent, or must break off the further course of these deliberations. The Grand Vizier, Mohammed Rushdi Pasha, has now very suddenly resigned office, and has been succeeded by Midhat Pasha, who was the leading spirit of the reforming Turkish Ministry. The Imperial decree or "Hatt," for the appointment of Midhat Pasha as Grand Vizier, was publicly read on Tuesday.

The Marquis of Salisbury and General Ignatieff seem to be on very friendly terms with each other, and have more than once been seen walking together. We give two illustrations of the place where Lord Salisbury, with his family and suite, are now residing at Pera, which is the quarter of Constantinople chiefly inhabited by Western European foreigners, as Galata is the Greek quarter. The Hotel Royal, kept by F. Logotheti, stands in the Petits Champs des Morts, adjacent to an old Turkish burial cemetery, at the top of the steep bank on the shore of "the Golden Horn." The Golden Horn, as our readers are probably aware, is an inlet or arm of the Bosphorus, separating the two foreign suburbs, Galata and Pera, from Stamboul, which is the proper Turkish city. Referring first to our view of the Hotel Royal, it is to be observed that the rugged foreground slopes down to the shore of the Golden Horn on the left-hand side, and is a playground for boys and for ownerless dogs. It was to have been the site of the projected new theatre. The cypress-trees rising beyond, to the left of the hotel, stand in the gardens of the British Embassy, the entrance to which mansion, called the Palais d'Angleterre, is through the narrow street or lane, on the right-hand side of the hotel. The whole first floor of the hotel is now occupied by the household of Lord Salisbury, while his staff and suite fill most of the other floors. The Emperor and Empress of Brazil were lodged not long ago at this hotel. It was at, one period, the temporary residence of Ibrahim Pasha of Egypt; and at another time was used by the British Ambassador while the official mansion of his Embassy was in course of rebuilding.

We next invite attention to the second Engraving, which gives a view from the Hotel, looking westward, across the Golden Horn and full upon Stamboul. The Golden Horn, though it seems much broader towards the right-hand side of this view, opens into the Bosphorus on the left-hand side, beyond the margin of our Engraving. Over the lower part of Stamboul, marked by the dome and two minarets of the Shah Zadeh Mosque, is seen a small piece of water, which is the Sea of Marmora; and in the far distance beyond it, at least thirty miles away, are visible the mountains of Broussa, in Asia Minor. The foreground consists of the foundations laid for the new theatre at Pera, and the funereal cypress-groves of the Petits Champs des Morts, with the Moslem tombstones, each surmounted by a carved turban, to indicate that one of the male followers of the Prophet is buried there. To the right hand, in the level ground of the lower shore beneath this cliff or bank, on the near side of the Golden Horn, is a square building, the Palace of the Turkish Minister of Marine. It is in this building that the Conference of the European Plenipotentiaries is daily assembled. The naval arsenal is adjacent to the Ministry of Marine, and we perceive the masts and steam-funnels of ships lying at the wharves or in dock. Now, looking at the crowded mass of houses on the opposite shore, in the Turkish part of Constantinople, several of the principal edifices can be distinguished. Close to the left-hand margin is a lofty minaret or turret, with several balconies, which belongs to the Seraskierat, or Palace of the War Minister. Next to this comes into view the grand dome, with four slender minarets, of the Suleimanieh, or Mosque of Suleiman. In the dip of lower ground is the Shah Zadeh Mosque, already mentioned. The Mahmoudieh, or Mosque of Mohammed, a dome with two minarets, stands on the height near the centre of our view, about two miles distant from the spectator at Pera. A huge oblong block of plain building, like a warehouse or factory, is the Hat Bazar, or Horse Market. The Karagumruk mosque is just seen to the extreme right of this view. The Golden Horn runs far up to the "Sweet Waters of Europe," a favourite place of summer holiday recreation. At its narrow part, where it divides Stamboul from Galata, there is a wooden swing-bridge, which allows ships to pass up the inlet. The

fine iron bridge, now under construction, to supersede that crazy old wooden one, has been broken by a Turkish ironclad, and is still unfinished.

It was expected that the full meetings of the Conference, in the presence of the Turkish Plenipotentiaries, would commence on this day (Saturday), and their first business would be to renew the Armistice between Turkey and Servia, which would otherwise expire on New-Year's Day. The Sultan's Government is said to have declared that it will never consent to any foreign military occupation of any of its provinces. The Russian Government has, at the request of England, withdrawn its proposal to occupy Bulgaria with Russian troops; and an occupation by Belgian troops is now talked of.

### THE CHURCH.

The parish church of Ingham, Norfolk, has been reopened after a restoration, which cost nearly £3000.

The Rev. E. W. Benson, D.D., has been appointed to the Bishopric of Truro, the foundation of which is officially notified by an Order in Council published in the *Gazette*.

The new Church of St. Matthew, High Town, Luton, was consecrated on the 12th inst. by the Bishop of Ely. It has been built from designs by Mr. G. Vials, architect, and accommodates over 800 persons, at a cost of about £4600.

The *Literary Churchman* states that Mr. Torr has declared himself responsible for collecting or providing £50,000 for the Liverpool bishopric, providing that the Additional Bishopric Endowment Fund will meet it with £10,000.

The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels held its monthly meeting, on Monday, at the society's house, 7, Whitehall—the Rev. John Evans in the chair. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects—viz., building new churches at Cawsand, near Devonport; Kingston, near Tetsworth, Oxon; Mold, St. John the Evangelist, Flint; Tividale, near Tipton, Staffordshire; Tredegar, St. Margaret, Monmouth; and West Bromwich, St. John; rebuilding the churches at Haxby, near York; Llantod, near Cardigan; and Wincle, near Macclesfield; enlarging and otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Headcorn, near Ashford, Kent; North Leverton, near Lincoln; and St. Lawrence, Pembroke. Under urgent circumstances the grant formerly made towards reseating and restoring the church at St. Goran, near St. Austell, Cornwall, was increased. Grants were also made from the Special School-church and Mission House Fund towards building mission churches at Four Elms, in the parish of Hever, near Westerham, Kent, and Mountain Ash, near Aberdare. The society likewise accepted the trust of sums of money as repair funds for the churches at North Meols, All Saint's, Lancaster; Moulton, near Davenham, Chester; and Tonbridge, St. Saviour, Kent.

### PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

On Monday the Lord Mayor distributed the prizes at the schools of the Haberdashers' Company, in Pitfield-street, Hoxton. The schools, which were intended for 300 boys and 300 girls, were opened in June, 1875.

In presenting the prizes, on Monday, at the Devonport High School for Girls, Sir John St. Aubyn, M.P., alluded to the establishment of cookery in connection with the institution, and remarked that the English were the worst cooks in the world. There was more waste and less facility in adapting the products of nature to man's use in England than in any other country in Europe. He thought such schools would tend to remove this stain on the national character.

The Hon. Evelyn Ashley, M.P., in distributing the prizes at the Southampton School of Art on Monday evening, expressed satisfaction with the decentralising process going on in the art department, the example of France in concentrating art-teaching in the capital having proved a failure.

The prizes won by the Greenwich Hospital School boys were distributed, on Tuesday, by Captain Burney, R.N., president of the college, at the Gymnasium, in the presence of a number of naval officers and other persons.

Mr. W. E. Forster presided, on Tuesday, at the annual soirée of the Halifax Mechanics' Institute; and, after distributing the prizes to the students, delivered a long address on the subject of national education, in the course of which he spoke in favourable terms of the Act passed last Session enforcing compulsion.

"Doctors' Day" at Merchant Taylors' School was celebrated on Tuesday, when the speeches were delivered in the new hall in Charterhouse-square. Dr. Baker, the Head Master, gave a long list of distinctions gained by the school since last Doctors' Day. The usual banquet took place in the evening—Mr. S. Mason presiding.

Sir E. H. Currie, late Vice-Chairman of the London School Board, presided at the annual distribution of prizes, on Tuesday evening, at Latymer's School, Edmonton.

Mr. Hubbard, M.P., distributed the prizes, on Wednesday evening, to the boys in King's College School, of which he was one of the founders. He laid stress upon the importance of religious training as the only solid foundation, and expressed his satisfaction that that principle had been the basis and strength of the school.

The annual meeting of the West London School of Art for the distribution of prizes took place, on Wednesday evening, at the Quebec Institution—Lord George Hamilton presiding.

At the anniversary festival of the Commercial Travellers' Schools at Pinner, held at the Freemasons' Tavern, on Wednesday, and presided over by Mr. J. Hughes, the large subscription of £16,673 was announced.

Sir C. Russell, M.P., distributed the prizes to the students of Belgrave College, Pimlico, at Grosvenor Hall, Buckingham Palace-road, on Wednesday evening.

On the same evening there was an immense gathering of the City of London Middle-Class School at the Christmas entertainments, it being estimated that pupils and visitors made up a total of 4000 persons. There was a boys' concert in the large hall, which includes spacious galleries, and contains an excellent organ; and a recitation performance, preceded by part of a French play, and relieved with songs, in the dining-hall. Both rooms were filled to overflowing, and the programmes were carried out skilfully and successfully.

The Home Secretary distributed the prizes to the pupils of the Liverpool College on Thursday morning, and delivered an address on education.

The Governors of the Exeter Grammar School have chosen as Head Master of the school, upon its reorganised system, the Rev. Edward Harris, M.A., at present one of the higher assistant masters in Clifton College.

Mr. John Desborough Walford, who was for upwards of forty years mathematical master at Winchester College, and also deputy bursar, died at Winchester, on Wednesday.—The death is also announced, at the age of fifty-seven, of Mr. Johannes Schneider, for twenty years German master at King's College School.



THE CONFERENCE AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

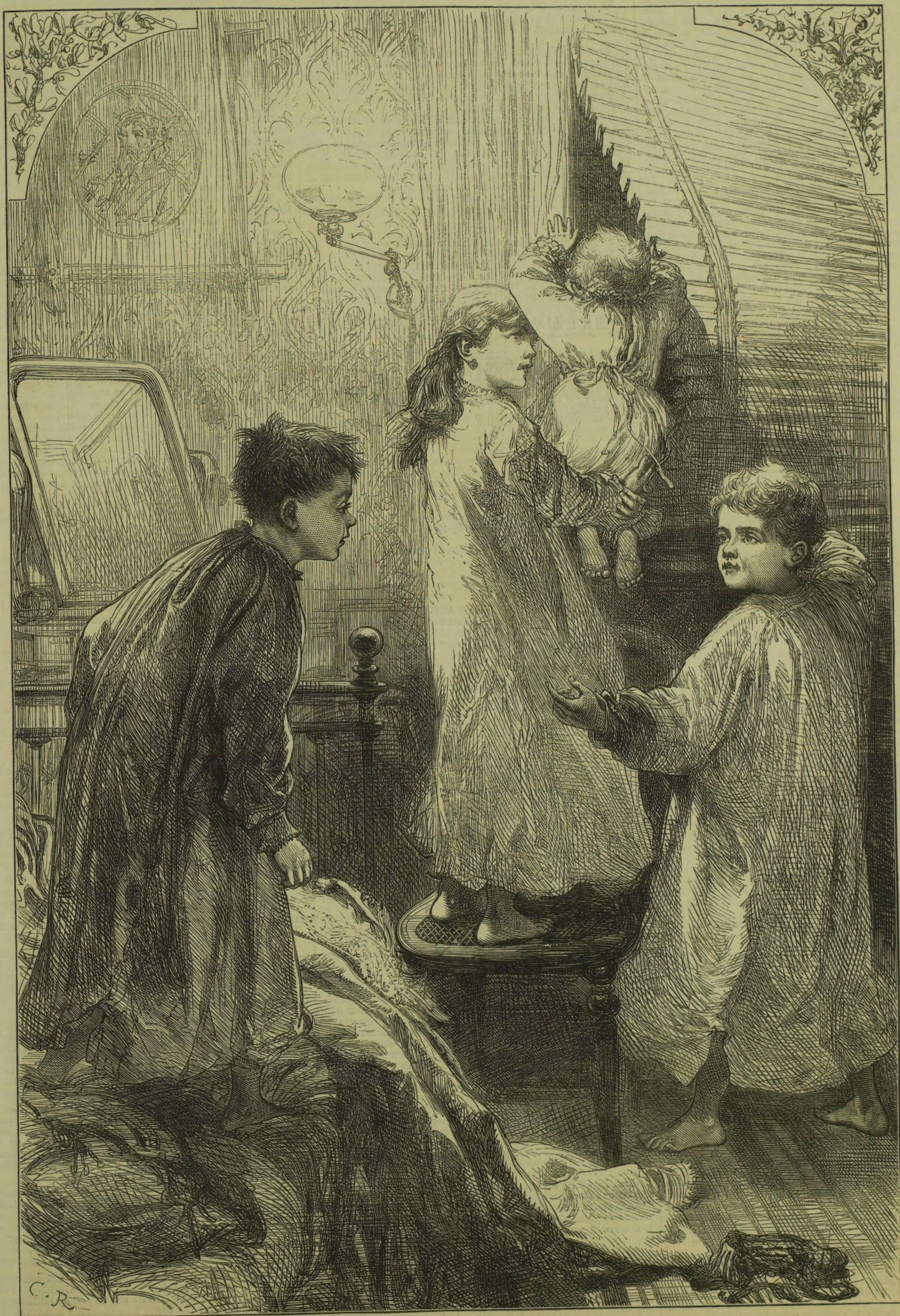


HOTEL AT PERA, OCCUPIED BY LORD SALISBURY AND HIS STAFF.



VIEW FROM LORD SALISBURY'S HOTEL AT PERA.





THE WAITS. BY C. ROBINSON.



## THE WAITS.

Among the customary performances and observances at this period of the ecclesiastical and social twelvemonth we are wont to expect the perambulating band of street musicians at any hour from midnight to the tardy break of day. Their fiddling and fiffing, as we imagine, has come to be the indifferent substitute for the singing of a genuine Christmas carol by the volunteer choir of faithful and religious parishioners. But the name of "waits" is differently interpreted by philological antiquaries; some holding it to be a popular corruption of the old word "waghtes," from the Dutch or German, which signified the instrument called a hautboy; others declaring that it means simply "watchmen;" and reminding us that they used to "pipe the watch," four times in the night, in the precincts of the King's Royal Household. In Sussex, we believe, they are called "wastlers;" but let them bear any title they will, it is a sign of coming Christmas, in the first week of Advent, while the sleepless head turns wearily on its feverish pillow, to hear in the far distance, or round the corner of the next street, a faint strumming and whistling, gradually nearing and growing more distinct, till the familiar hymn-tune, as one falls into a momentary slumber, makes one dream of sitting in a soft-cushioned pew, and of being disgraced by a fit of somnolence before the eyes of parson and people. It is but the dream of an instant; we presently awake, to find ourselves not in church but in our own bed; and we hear in our own house, in the children's bed-room or nursery overhead, a scurrying patter of bare little feet, a sweet outburst of happy little voices, and the noise of drawing a chair across the floor and climbing upon it to look out of the window, for "the Waits have come!" and the children are eager to see them, either by the pale light of the moon or by the glimmer of a gas-lamp ten doors off. The repose of twenty households in the same street is at once broken with the most laudable intentions, for which these nocturnal minstrels will ask to be paid, like the organ-grinders who infest our towns by day. It pleases the children, and perhaps also the nursemaids, that a patient Paterfamilias should patronise these sonorous visitations. "Well," thinks he, "the young folk will know better some day; they will grow up to be wiser and sadder; and where shall I be then? Let me be kind to them now. Here's sixpence for you, noisy fellows; now you may give us one more stave of that dismal old melody, and then I beg you to be gone! I may still have a chance of two or three hours' good sleep."

## FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

## FRANCE.

(From our Correspondent in Paris.)

Thursday, Dec. 21.

Sufficient time has scarcely elapsed for a judgment to be formed as to whether the French Ministry, as newly constituted, is likely to be in harmony with the majority of the two Chambers. M. Jules Simon made his declaration, both to the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, in which, after complimenting M. Dufaure, he announced that he had no programme to place before them. "There is no need of one," continued he, "either for myself, who have been a long time in political life, M. Martel, or any of the old Ministers. You know that I am profoundly Republican, and you know also that I am deeply Conservative. I am devoted, by the strongest conviction and by all the studies of my life, to the principle of liberty of conscience, which is animated by a sincere respect for religion. The Cabinet now formed is, and desires to remain, a Parliamentary one. In that respect we have only to follow the example given by the First Magistrate of the Republic, who always endeavours to follow in the most exact manner the principles of Constitutional Government. We are united among ourselves, and in accord with the majority of Parliament. Like that, our desire is the definitive establishment of the Republican Constitution, which France has given to itself. Actuated by that intention, we hope that we shall impress on the different departments entrusted to our care a spirit of unity which will draw them together, and enable them to give each other mutual support in the accomplishment of a common work. What I say of the relations amongst the different branches of the public service, I say of each of them separately with regard to its interior working; but, in order that the liberty should be real, authority must be strong, and that can never be attained when it is divided against itself. It is not only necessary that all the officials, from the highest to the lowest, should punctually execute the orders which they receive, and that they should apply all the laws with vigilance and firmness, but they must also by their acts, their conduct, and their language, give an example of respect for the Government of which they are the agents. We are firmly resolved to look well after that. France wants security and repose. She desires no more agitation. She wants to labour in tranquillity. It is calm, security, and peace that we desire to give her, and with that support which we now ask of you I have confidence that we shall succeed in our patriotic task."

The *Siccle*, which is regarded as the organ of M. Jules Simon, announced that the Government had determined on making several changes among the prefects; but the Bonapartist journals affirm that Marshal MacMahon has refused to sign the revocations which have been submitted to him, and declines, moreover, to sanction other proposed reforms. Thereupon the Radical *Courrier de France* calls on the new Minister for a denial or an explanation of these discouraging statements.

There has been some little opposition to M. Léon Say's Budget, the Committee—through M. Gambetta, their chairman—having pressed their proposed reduction of the duty upon salt against the Minister of Finance's explicit declaration that any reduction of taxation at the present moment was altogether inadvisable. On a division, the Committee carried their point by the large majority of 392 to 116.

The new Minister of Justice has inaugurated his advent to office by dismissing M. Bailleul, the Avocat-Général, at whose instance the Besançon Court, in a recent libel case, affirmed the legality of the mixed commissions which carried out the Bonapartist proscriptions of 1852. This dismissal has led to the resignation of the President of the Court of Cassation and of other legal functionaries at Bordeaux and Nismes.

The death, on the 14th inst., in his seventy-seventh year, of M. Chaix d'Estange, the distinguished advocate and deputy during the reign of Louis Philippe, and a senator under the Second Empire, has been recorded.

There was a great Radical demonstration on Sunday last, on the occasion of the civil burial, in the cemetery of Père la Chaise, of the daughter of M. Raspail, who has been so often imprisoned on account of his political opinions, and was only lately released from a twelvemonth's sentence for a justification of the doings of the Paris Commune, published by him in a Republican almanack. A couple of speeches, more or less political in tone, were delivered beside the grave.

An accident occurred, on Sunday last, at Montreuil, on the Lyons and Mediterranean Railway, when several engines came into collision while a goods-train was being shunted to clear

the line for the Marseilles express. The line in consequence became blocked for several hours, and an extra train had to be sent on from Culoz to Modane with the passengers who had been delayed. This train, unhappily, ran into an ordinary passenger-train between Aix-les-Bains and Chatillon, when nine persons, including six of the railway company's servants, were killed and fourteen were seriously injured. The Chatillon station-master has been arrested on a charge of culpable neglect.

A statue of Mirabeau was inaugurated, on Monday last, in his native town of Aix, near which the ancient castle of the family is situated.

## ITALY.

Last Saturday the Empress Eugénie had an interview with the Pope, which lasted for an hour and a half. The Prince Imperial was afterwards admitted, and, together with the Empress, conversed with his Holiness for another half hour.

Patrizi, the Cardinal Vicar and Dean of the College of Cardinals, died in Rome on Sunday.

The Committee of the Chamber of Deputies charged with the revision of the Italian penal code has unanimously voted in favour of the abolition of capital punishment. In the Chamber of Deputies, on Tuesday, the estimates for the War Department for 1877 were approved, after a long discussion upon the state of the armaments of the country at the end of March, when the new Ministry came into power.

Mr. Rose claims an indemnity from the Government for the ransom he paid the brigands who recently held him in captivity.

## PORTUGAL.

The Queen has taken the initiative in the organisation of a committee for the relief of the sufferers from the floods.

The remains of the late Duke de Saldanha were landed, on Tuesday, at the chapel of the Naval Arsenal, Lisbon, and the funeral took place on Wednesday. Princely honours were paid to the deceased, and the King attended mass at the church where the body lay in state.

The British Channel Squadron arrived in the Tagus on Saturday last.

## HOLLAND.

The Association of the officers of the Schutterig (the Dutch National Guards) have presented to the King an address in which they say that universal military service is the final solution of the military question, and propose, as the time for introducing it in Holland has not yet come, a number of temporary measures.

In Monday's sitting of the First Chamber the Monetary Bill was rejected by 16 votes against 11.

## GERMANY.

The German Parliament passed, in the third reading, on Wednesday, the remaining clauses of the introductory bill of the law for the constitution of the courts on the basis of the proposals contained in the compromise. The House next terminated the general debate upon the third reading of the Penal Code Bill, and began the special debate, passing clauses from 1 to 7. The compromise proposal to the seventh clause was adopted by 195 to 124 votes.

An association, called the German African Society, has been established at Berlin, in connection with the Brussels International African Association. Many high officers of State and members of Parliament attended the preliminary meeting. The Crown Prince will be asked to become president.

## AUSTRO-HUNGARY.

The Lower House of the Austrian Reichsrath concluded, on Tuesday, the debate upon the estimates for 1877. Dr. Herbst said, amid warm applause, that at the present critical moment it was necessary to give unanimous support to the Ministry. The House afterwards adopted the prolongation of the treaties of commerce with England and France, and then adjourned for the Christmas recess.

The Lower House of the Hungarian Diet has passed the Budget for 1877 by 214 votes against 106, and has approved the treaties of commerce with France and England. Replying, on Tuesday, to an interpellation in the Lower House, Herr Tisza, Minister-President, said that Dalmatia virtually belongs to Austria, and that he could not interfere in Austrian internal affairs; and, with regard to the action of the Dalmatian authorities on the subject of the Eastern Question, he expressed full confidence in the policy and energy of Count Andrassy.

## GREECE.

A reconciliation has been effected between M. Zaimis and M. Comoudouros.

The Chamber of Deputies has unanimously voted the Military Bill raising the strength of the land forces to 200,000 men; and the bill authorising a loan of 10,000,000 drachmas for extraordinary measures of military organisation has been adopted. The resolution to impeach the members of the Bulgarian Cabinet for illegal conduct at the elections has been rescinded.

## EGYPT.

According to a despatch from Cairo, the immediate payment of the overdue coupons of the short loans has been ordered. The Khedive has withdrawn his London agency. His Highness has appointed Mr. Rogers Director of Public Instruction.

## AMERICA.

President Grant has sent a message to Congress in which he justifies the dispatch of troops to the South to prevent disturbance. He says that they never interfered in the elections, and frequently ensured honest results by the protection which their presence afforded to the voters. A joint committee of Congress has been formed to prepare a measure providing a mode of lawfully counting the votes of the Presidential electors.

The Democratic Legislature of South Carolina has installed Mr. Wade Hampton as Governor of the State, and Mr. M. C. Butler as United States Senator.

Some diplomatic correspondence on the extradition difficulty has been presented to Congress, from which it appears that, during the past summer, Mr. Fish declined, with respect to Canada, either to demand or to grant the extradition of criminals.

## CANADA.

Mr. Letellier St. Just has been appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Quebec.

A New York telegram affirms that the Canadian Government has granted the extradition of an American forger who had taken refuge in Canada.

## CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

It has been decided that the International Exhibition is to open on March 15.

In reply to the Governor's protest, President Burgers defends the claim of the Republic to the land claimed by the Kaffirs, and insists on its being the duty of his Government to suppress the Secocoeni rebellion. Lord Carnarvon has instructed Sir Henry Barkly to press for further inquiry into the reports that native women had been murdered by British subjects during the hostilities between the Boers and the Kaffirs.

The inquiry into the loss of the transport *St. Lawrence* has ended in the certificate of the captain being suspended for six months and that of the chief mate for a year.

## INDIA.

Lord Lytton arrived at Bombay from Kurrachee on Saturday, and met with a very cordial reception.

Sir R. Temple, the Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, estimates the loss of life in the late cyclone at 215,000, but says that the exact number is not known, and perhaps never will be. The Queen had sent a telegram to the Government of India expressive of her deep concern at this terrible calamity.

Mr. F. J. Biden, M.A. Cambridge, one of the Masters of Marlborough College, has been appointed to the head mastership of La Martinière College, Calcutta.

## AUSTRALIA.

A despatch from Melbourne, dated Dec. 13, states that the railway bills had been withdrawn, and that the Session of the Victoria Parliament was to close on the 22nd inst. The bill for the purchase of the Hobson's Bay Railway has been negatived.

Sir Hercules Robinson, the Governor of New South Wales, took advantage of a visit he has been paying to the colony of Victoria to deliver an admirable speech on the subject of the federation of the Australian colonies. Appropriately enough, he selected Albury, a town on the New South Wales bank of the Murray, popularly known as the "Federal City," as the place whence he addressed the people of the two principal colonies of the group.

The arrival of the North-West Exploring Expedition, Queensland, at the Falls, Leichardt river, on Oct. 19, is reported by the Melbourne *Argus*. They report that the country from the Cloncurry gold-field to the head of the southern branch, and thence tracing the course of the Diamantina to the South Australian boundary, and onwards to the twenty-seventh parallel of latitude, was thoroughly examined. The party returned round the western boundary of Queensland, with divergences east and west to examine the previously-explored country. A connection was established between the farthest point reached by Captain Sturt in 1846 and the extreme southern point attained by Landsborough, where a large area of magnificent pastoral country awaits occupation. The Herbert river, after running a short distance into South Australia, re-enters Queensland territory to the twenty-sixth parallel of latitude. The country is superior to the Diamantina. It possesses fine lakes and an ample supply of salt, with splendid herbage. It is flanked on the western side by a sandstone range named after Governor Cairns. The extreme drought caused much suffering to the men and horses, and three of the latter perished. It being impossible to reach Cloncurry direct, the party crossed the northern watershed, and followed down the Gregory, thence over the Leichardt Falls, whence they were to make for the dépôt over settled country. They will then complete their instructions by traversing the Gulf shores. The most amicable relations were preserved with the natives throughout the course of the expedition.

The English cricketers, according to a Reuter's telegram, played and won a match against the eleven of Newcastle, New South Wales, yesterday week.

Yakob Beg, the ambitious Khoja chief who wrested Kashgar from the Chinese, appears to be in difficulties. A *Times* telegram from Berlin affirms that his troops have been attacked and defeated by the Celestials, and that he has appealed to the Russian commander at Tashkend for assistance.

## METROPOLITAN NEWS.

Upon the nomination of the Prince of Wales, the Lord Mayor (Alderman Sir Thomas White) has been selected as one of the Royal Commissioners in connection with the British Section of the Paris International Exhibition in 1878.

Mr. Atkinson, the joint general manager of the National Provincial Bank of England, was presented, on Saturday, with a testimonial on his retirement from the office. The testimonial was subscribed to by over 1000 officials of the bank (inclusive of the managers of all the various branches).

The annual distribution of prizes awarded to the students of St. Martin's School of Art, in connection with the Department of Science and Art, was made, yesterday week, at the school in Castle-street, Long Acre, under the presidency of Mr. T. Woolner, R.A.

The guardians of St. Pancras, finding great complaints made that the girls sent out to service from their schools at Leavenham are very ignorant of cooking, have resolved, on the motion of Mr. Guerrier, to appoint a training cook, whose especial duty it should be to instruct the girls in cooking.

The Special Bridge Committee of the City Corporation have reported that the most eligible site for a bridge over or a subway under the Thames would be that approached from Little Tower-hill and Irongate-stairs on the north, and from Horslydown-stairs on the south side of the river.

The annual meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers was held on Tuesday—Mr. George Robert Stephenson, president, in the chair; and on the same evening the anniversary festival of the Society of Engineers was celebrated at the Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street—Mr. R. P. Spice, C.E., presiding.

The Court of the Grocers' Company have voted 500 guineas in aid of the building fund of the Metropolitan Free Hospital, 81, Commercial-street, E., late Devonshire-square, and £100 in aid of the funds of the Royal Albert Orphan Asylum; and the Mercers' Company have presented twenty-five guineas to the Military Benevolent Fund (recently founded by a lady) for the benefit of army officers' necessitous widows and daughters.

A meeting was held, yesterday week, at the London Homœopathic Hospital, Great Ormond-street, Russell-square, for the purpose of establishing a school of homœopathic medicine in connection with the hospital. The chair was occupied by Lord Ebury. A letter was read from the Earl of Crawford warmly approving of the proposal, and tendering a donation of £200, and an annual subscription of £35.

The fourth annual dinner of the friends and supporters of the Royal School of Mines was held at the Pall-Mall Restaurant, yesterday week—Dr. Taylor Smith in the chair. A testimonial, consisting of a handsome silver étagère and two side plateaux, was presented to Professor Ramsay on behalf of past and present students of the school, on the occasion of his retirement from the professorship of geology.

The sudden death of Mr. Alderman Besley was announced last Monday at the Mansion House and Guildhall Police Courts, at the former of which he was to have presided as one of the magistrates for the day. The deceased Alderman, who was a native of Exeter, came to London in early life, and was for many years a member of the firm of Thorogood and Besley, typefounders. In 1861, upon the death of Sir Peter Laurie, Mr. Besley was elected Alderman for the ward of Aldersgate; in 1864 he served the office of Sheriff, and in 1869 was chosen Lord Mayor. Alderman Besley was seventy-seven years of age at the time of his death.



Professor J. Dewar gave, on Monday, a lecture at the London Institution on Light and the Eye. It comprised a résumé in a somewhat popular form of the results of his work during the last few years, which he has given in more technical language to various scientific societies.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers last week (the second week of December) was 83,305 of whom 38,014 were in workhouses and 45,291 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding weeks in 1875, 1874, and 1873, these figures show a decrease of 4439, 12,574, and 21,035 respectively. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 669, of whom 566 were men, 142 women, and 21 children under sixteen.

The Royal Humane Society's medal, which has recently been awarded to Archibald Douglas Maclean, a student at Christ's Hospital, for the bravery which he displayed in rescuing from drowning at Sandhurst the son of Colonel Brackenbury, was presented to him, on Tuesday, in the great hall of Christ's Hospital, Newgate-street, in the presence of the whole school, several of the governors, and friends of the recipient. At a meeting of the Royal Humane Society, on Tuesday, a large number of cases of saving life in various parts of the world, most of which involved great risk of life on the part of the rescuers, were brought before the committee, which bestowed the society's rewards.

At the meeting of the Metropolitan Board of Works, yesterday week, Mr. Dalton, chairman of the finance committee, made the annual statement of the income and expenditure of the board. The gross indebtedness of the board is twelve millions and a half sterling, which is reduced by the value of land held by them, and balances of loans due from district boards, to a little over nine millions. The expenditure for the ensuing year is estimated at £464,945, which is equal to a rate of about 4½d. in the pound. Besides this the board receives a portion of the coal and wine dues equivalent to a rate of 2½d. Steps were taken for levying the rate, which is one farthing in the pound more than it was last year.

The deaths from smallpox in London last week rose to 75, the highest weekly number since the beginning of the present epidemic. The deaths in the two preceding weeks had been 67 and 50 respectively. Of the 75 fatal cases last week, 34 were certified as unvaccinated, 25 as vaccinated, and in the remaining 16 the medical certificates did not furnish any information as to vaccination. The Metropolitan Asylum Hospitals contained 696 smallpox patients on Saturday last, against numbers increasing steadily from 185 to 586 in the seven preceding weeks. It was determined at the meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, last Saturday, to erect six additional pavilions at Fulham and seven at Deptford, for the purpose of providing accommodation for nearly 800 smallpox patients, the estimated cost being £41,705. In the general death-rate of the metropolis there was a decrease last week. There were registered 2546 births and 1443 deaths. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 165, whereas the deaths were 348 below, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The annual death-rate from all causes, which in the two previous weeks had been equal to 23.3 and 21.6 per 1000, was last week again 21.6. The deaths included, besides those from smallpox, 31 from measles, 54 from scarlet fever, 6 from diphtheria, 23 from whooping-cough, 28 from different forms of fever, and 19 from diarrhoea; thus to the seven principal diseases of the zymotic class 236 deaths were referred, against 219 and 197 in the two preceding weeks. These deaths were 49 below the corrected average number from the same diseases in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths referred to fever were 16 below the corrected average; 21 were certified as enteric or typhoid, 3 as typhus, and 4 as simple or low fever. The 282 deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs showed a further decline from the numbers in recent weeks, and were 221 below the corrected weekly average. Three deaths were caused by horses or vehicles in the streets.

The Stafford Town Council has elected Mr. H. W. Gibson Mayor of that borough, in place of the late Mr. Marson.

The Scottish Episcopal Church Society has agreed to grant £1000 towards the purchase of Dalry House, for the purpose of converting it into a training institution.

It is announced that the Parliamentary grant of £2000 a year for scientific investigations into the "causes and processes" of disease is in future to be placed at the disposal of the Royal Society. Heretofore this endowment was controlled by Mr. Simon, as medical officer of the Privy Council.

The heads of an arrangement for the fusion of the South-Eastern and London, Chatham, and Dover Railway Companies were signed by Sir E. W. Watkin, M.P., and Mr. Forbes, the chairmen of the respective boards of directors, on Thursday week. The agreement was subject to the confirmation of both boards, which was signified on Tuesday last.

A slight inaccuracy appeared in our last week's number concerning the *Picture Gallery*. The part containing the "four illustrations of works of Sir Edwin Landseer" is the December number, and completes the series of the present year. The January number begins a new series, in an enlarged form, containing large photographs taken directly from modern paintings, chiefly executed by Continental artists. The subjects for the January part are "The Circassian Slave," by Dubufe, and "The New-Born Lamb," by Bouguereau.

The Post Office London Directory for the ensuing year, published by Messrs. Kelly and Co., is as wonderful and useful as ever. Seventy-eight yearly editions have matured its manifold completeness, while the enormous growth of this city, a world in itself, has increased the bulk of the mighty book, with the vast multitude of names and places of residence or business there recorded. In the present instance, as in former years, care has been taken to note the most recent changes, in the minutest particulars, of a local, personal, or official character, to the first day of December. The list of the new School Board, elected on the 30th ult., and the appointments of the new Judges and Privy Counsellors, are duly made apparent. In other respects, this famous Directory keeps up its old character.

The Diaries and Pocket-Books of Messrs. T. De la Rue and Co. were noticed by us, a week or two since, with deserved commendation. Messrs. Letts, Son, and Co. provide for the coming year, as is their custom, a choice of most convenient diaries and memorandum-books for commercial, household, or personal engagements.—The pretty manufacture of Christmas Cards, and similar decorated trifles of fancy, to serve as tokens of friendly remembrance at the beginning of a New Year, has been noticed as usual upon this occasion. Messrs. T. De la Rue and Co., Messrs. Marcus Ward and Co., and others, have produced a variety of elegant things in this department. We have also received some from Mr. B. Sulman, and Messrs. Thomas and Harding. The "Great Mogul" fancy packs of playing-cards, devised by Messrs. Willis and Co., show much originality of invention.

## NOVELS.

Picturesque, brimful of character, abounding in merits, but not without blemishes that sin sorely against the canons of good taste, the romances of Miss Rhoda Broughton are among the most popular works of the circulating library. Her ability in vividly imaging all that is beautiful in nature is as conspicuous as ever in *Joan* (Richard Bentley and Son); but here and there in the three volumes of her latest novel it is evident that Miss Broughton still paints her scenes in colours far too sensuous, albeit she offends less in this respect than she did in her previous efforts. The fleshly school is no more to be tolerated in prose than it is in poetry. And we are here reminded that, as one of our sweetest singers has gained in reputation by taking nobler themes, so may the authoress of "Cometh Up as a Flower" win a wider circle of readers by retaining the sterling ore and discarding the dross with which she has unprofitably toyed hitherto. We are hopeful of this result because of the many exquisitely soft and true womanly traits in the character of "Joan," sympathetically limned by Miss Broughton. To this graceful heroine comes, on a visit of condolence—would the reader be surprised to hear?—a handsome young officer, broad-shouldered and fair, with bold, grey eyes, and humming, as he enters Dering Park—

And ye shall walk in silk attire,  
And siller hae to spare!

But of this world's goods the young girl he has come to sympathise with can boast of next to nothing. With the exception of a comparatively small legacy, Miss Joan Dering has nothing left for her support now her grandfather is dead. From the comfort and luxury of Dering Joan is driven to the slatternly villa of her aunt at Helmsley. Good-natured but vulgar Mrs. Moberly and her two daughters, Bell and Diana, are afflicted with a not uncommon phase of scarlet fever. They "doat on the military," and are scarcely ever without some young subaltern in their train. All this, and the shabby gentility of Portland Villa, prove inexpressibly distasteful to Joan, who bears her misfortune, however, bravely enough outwardly. She by-and-by finds sweet and bitter consolation in her secret love for the handsome young officer, Colonel Wolferstan, who was the one last friend to call upon her at Dering. Gradually does the passion grow upon her. At first she has but a friendly regard for the good-looking Colonel with whom she keeps pleasant, platonic trysts on the seashore and in the greenwoods. She begins by laughing at this epicurean wooer, who openly confesses his lack of constancy. She ends by loving him deeply and being loved as deeply in return, though the course of their true love, so far from running smoothly, becomes so tortuous that the happiness of both is wrecked for a while. The surroundings of these love-making scenes are as felicitous as ever. They are pictures glowing with colours as harmonious as those of Millais. Witness the moonlight garden scene between Joan and Wolferstan early in the second volume, wherein the roses and "grey-green sprays and tendrils of the bowery clematis" form soft-hued backgrounds—or "symphonies in green," as Mr. Whistler might say—for the sauntering couple, one glimpse of whom is simply delightful: "A very light air has arisen, and is gently swinging the heavy-folded roses and playing over the garden god's cold limbs, the girl's soft face, and the man's troubled one." Without doing "Joan" the injustice of disclosing the dénouement, we may remark that several characters besides those named are vigorously, some of them not very delicately, sketched by Miss Broughton—notably, the artificial figure of Mrs. Wolferstan, and the indolent gourmand of a Juno, Miss Lalage Beauchamp, whose embonpoint and décolleté dress are coarsely limned, not to put too fine a point on it. These are the harsh and discordant notes of "Joan," and they are the more noticeable from their contrast to the many passages of beauty that stud the pages. They are quite out of harmony especially with the tender and touching analysis of the innermost emotions of the sensitive if morbid young heroine's heart. Miss Broughton will, doubtless, avoid these grave faults in time.

Do our novelists contemplate a crusade against girls' boarding-schools—we beg pardon, Colleges for Young Ladies? It has already been our sad duty to bear witness to the revolution brought about in a select Camberwell college by "Madcap Violet," Mr. William Black's bewitching heroine. The pernicious example has spread. Mr. Percy Fitzgerald has couched his lance—we grieve to relate the melancholy fact in a season when Mesdames Minerva are seeking a little well-earned repose from the fatigues and anxieties of superintending the mental, moral, and physical culture of their fair charges—against the Misses Cooke, of Chapone House, which educational establishment is eventually broken up in consequence of the scandal arising from an impulsive step upon the part of Miss Phoebe Dawson, ringleader of all the fun and frolic. We will not pause to inquire here whether Mr. Black and Mr. Fitzgerald, in beginning their latest novels with these riotous occurrences in what we should have imagined were abodes of peace, mean to bring Young Ladies' Colleges down to the level of Dotheboys Hall, or whether they intend to point the moral to fractious pupils of the fair sex. Our business is with the most vivacious young scapegrace of Chapone House, Miss Phoebe Dawson, round whom centres the interest of Mr. Fitzgerald's new three-volume story of *The Parvenu Family*; or, *Phoebe, Girl and Wife* (Bentley and Son). Who has not been captivated at one period or another of his life by some such bright-eyed beauty as Phoebe? Mr. Fitzgerald says, "Phoebe was a refined, dainty little creature, with all the piquant dignity of a Chelsea-ware shepherdess; and from her earliest appearance before the public had a very finished and complete air in her bearing, her dress, and appearance. She was, indeed, a delicately wrought piece of workmanship, with dancing eyes, and a lip so sensitive and airy that it played like some magnetic instrument under every emotion." Well, this adorable little creature has for bosom friend Miss Adelaide Cross—a second Becky Sharp in her way—and this bosom friend, Phoebe finds, has stolen, midnight meetings at the garden-gate with—a young man! Here's food for romance and for her sympathetic young soul at one and the same time. Here's something to distract her mind from the practical jokes in which it has been her delight to find recreation. The secret meetings of the lovers discovered by the lynx-eyed mistress, and Adelaide Cross detained a prisoner in her room, why shouldn't Phoebe enact the part of a friend in need and keep the tryst Adelaide is unable to keep? Phoebe answers the question by being her friend's substitute at the garden-gate. She sees and converses with her friend's sweetheart; and he, weak soul, becomes smitten with Phoebe, to whom he transfers his fickle affections. Thence arise the peck of troubles with which poor Phoebe is destined to be overwhelmed. This stolen meeting is her last violation of the rules of Chapone House. It sunders the bonds of affection existing between herself and Adelaide Cross. It hastens, if not their dismissal, their departure from Chapone House, Phoebe in charge of Mrs. Dawson, Adelaide Cross as the companion of a wealthy spinster who takes a fancy to the independent girl. The marriage of Phoebe and young Mr. Pringle (hero of the escapade at Chapone House) affords the author fresh opportunity of limning that type of vacillating mankind whose frailties were

incisively delineated by him in "Never Forgotten." Young Pringle is driven into the marriage, against the will of his newly enriched family, by a little manly coercion on the part of Tom Dawson, Phoebe's brother. He is made to keep his word; but he has the selfish satisfaction of spoiling some of the best years of Phoebe's fresh young life, and, in the end, wavers back to his old love, Adelaide Cross, who, after a few vicissitudes of the kind to which the Becky Sharps of the world are not unaccustomed, achieves an ascendant position in the household of "The Parvenu Family." The adventures of this "Parvenu Family" form the most amusing features of the novel. In Mr. Fitzgerald's crispest and best style are pictured the rise and fall of the Pringles, the oddities and vulgarities of Sam Pringle, the father, whose opulence spoils him, and their vain efforts to circulate in that Society which is ever ready to welcome true worth, but which firmly closes the door against each "Parvenu Family," whose money-bags are their only recommendation. Mr. Fitzgerald is never happier—from a literary point of view, we mean—than when he is pungently hitting off the weaknesses of poor humanity. Wherefore it is that although his portraits possess the lifelike clearness and distinctness of photographs, they have this quality in common with some sun-pictures: defects are not infrequently exaggerated. In the spheres of life he has chosen for illustration in his present work he has abundant targets for the arrows of his wit; and, if he does not always succeed in hitting the gold, he has certainly discharged his shafts with so good an aim as to merit the thanks of all novel-readers this Christmas season.

Mr. B. L. Farjeon has attained a high position in the ranks of our novelists. There is the greatest possible dissimilarity between his style and that of Mr. Percy Fitzgerald. Yet each possesses the rare power of endowing fictitious characters with strong vitality and individuality. This power is again shown by Mr. Farjeon in his interesting story of *The Duchess of Rosemary-lane* (Tinsley Brothers), which, having run for the past twelvemonth as a serial in *Tinsley's Magazine*, now blooms into the conventional green three-volume novel. It is easy to see that in beginning to paint this picture of life (sometimes painful, sometimes pleasing) Mr. Farjeon miscalculated the size of his canvas. He devotes so great an amount of space to the infancy and childhood of "The Duchess of Rosemary-lane" (as he has chosen to call the pretty little waif and stray of this great city who sits as his heroine) that he is unable to give a due and proportionate number of chapters in the present work to her girlhood and womanhood. In the prologue is told afresh the old, old story of woman's trust and man's betrayal; and in the romance the actors in this rural tragedy are ultimately brought face to face in what is, doubtless, intended to be a retributive scene. The link which brings Mr. Temple and Nelly Marston together again, only to be sundered once more, is the "Duchess," their child, who, a castaway in the poorest quarter of London, is tenderly nurtured, first, by a poor woman scarce able to find food for her own little daughter, and next by Seth Dumbrick, a quaint old cobbler, whom Mr. Farjeon limns to the life. Seth is a philosopher in his modest way, an unambitious Odger, who sticks to his last. The poor readily help each other out of their scanty stores; and so Seth Dumbrick readily adopts Sally Chester and her wee fairy called the "Duchess" because of her dainty beauty. At Christmas, of all seasons of the year, it is good to tarry awhile in this squalid, poverty-stricken Rosemary-lane, for the novelist's vivid descriptions bring before us, in their true colours, in all their dingy surroundings, the depths of misery in which the poorest of the poor drag out their weary existences, and point out, at the same time, how tiny a ray of human love and charity may materially lessen the dullness of the dark spots of the city. Seth Dumbrick might be the disguised fairy of this wretched quarter, so tender and kind hearted is he, albeit rough and uncouth in manner; and, after reading the idyll of his love for the "Duchess," and his country excursion with her and Sally, one is almost prepared to see him throw off his cloak, get out of his shell, and, disclosing himself as the good fairy, make the "Duchess" happy ever after by uniting her to the Prince of her heart. But it will not be fair to Mr. Farjeon to tell who really wins the heart of the "Duchess," or how he finally metes out justice where it is deserved. In commending "The Duchess of Rosemary-lane" to our readers, we venture to think they will coincide with us in the opinion that the sequel has yet to be written by Mr. Farjeon.

## "CHRISTMAS EVE."

In this drawing, which is Mr. Heywood Hardy's design for a picture, likely enough to be seen at the next Royal Academy Exhibition, we behold the toilsome journey of a rural postman, with her Majesty's mail-cart, conveying the letter-bags to a round of villages at a late hour of the winter night. It is not the most cheerful way of passing a Christmas Eve, though it is rendering most useful service to the interests of social and domestic welfare. As Cowper says:—

He comes, the herald of a noisy world,  
News from all nations lumbering in his pack,  
Yet careless what he brings, his one concern  
Is to conduct it to the destined inn,  
And having dropped the expected bag, pass on,  
Cold and yet cheerful; messenger of grief  
Perhaps to thousands, and of joy to some,  
To him indifferent whether grief or joy.  
Houses in ashes, and the fall of stocks,  
Births, deaths, and marriages, epistles wet  
With tears that trickled down the writer's cheeks  
Fast as the periods from his fluent quill,  
Or charged with amorous sighs of absent swains,  
Or nymphs responsive, equally affect  
His horse and him, unconscious of them all.

Both man and beast, we should think, may be held excusable for being conscious, just now, only of their own bodily sensations of weariness and chilliness, as the mail-cart passes over the bare brow of a high hill, exposed to the bleak and bitter northern blast, while the ground has become so slippery, from the alternate thawing and freezing of a thin layer of snow, that their progress is perilous and painful. We hope the country postman will find a bright fireside at home, with a good hot supper and a good warm bed, when his tedious drive is finished. The letters will be safely delivered at a hundred other homes in his district about breakfast-time on Christmas Day morning.

The London Stereoscopic Company have contrived and constructed a very pleasing optical apparatus, the "Cellini Kaleidoscope," which would be an acceptable Christmas present to any young ladies who are fond of an infinite variety of beautiful effects in form and colour.

Reports have been received from various parts of the kingdom of strong gales and heavy falls of rain. In some parts of Yorkshire and in the midland counties large areas of land are flooded. The gale raged with great fury on Wednesday night on the north-eastern coast, and the steamship *Claremont*, from London to Shields, went ashore at the pier at the last-named port. Soon afterwards the steamer *Tyne*, of North Shields, struck upon the rocks and filled, her crew of sixteen hands being drowned. Other shipping casualties are reported.





CHRISTMAS EVE. BY HEYWOOD HARDY.



## CHRISTMAS IN COPENHAGEN.

One can hardly help thinking, at times, that Christmas, with its festivities and presents, and the poetry which belongs to it, is, somehow, a little out of place here in England—in the large towns and London most of all—at the present day, late in the nineteenth century. The educated classes, at all events, are, even to the schoolboys and children, too highly sophisticated for the simple charm and merriment of the time; the effect of Dickens's "Carol" has passed over, and is felt chiefly now by those among whom he is only just beginning to be thoroughly known—and worshipped.

No. Christmas has, in spite of that famous Carol, a truer home than England—in spite of our forests of Christmas-trees, our toyshops bursting and running over with wonders, our dinners to the poor and the prisoners; in spite of goose-clubs, of blazing butchers' shops, of holidays, family gatherings, crowded railway stations, snowballing, frolic, and fun; in spite of grand new and original pantomimes at the theatres of every town, great and small, from Aberdeen to St. Heliers. Here there is much fun, much charity, much happiness, much relief from labour; but of the simple, childlike Christmas feeling—naïve, poetical, graceful, even witty—there is, in our great towns, but a very little.

Let us go further north. Not far away, across a narrow strip of sea, there is a land whose people, whose language, and whose literature are very little known among ordinary educated people here in England, and yet are most simple, pleasant, straightforward, and easy to be known. The Danes speak, write, and think—shall I say, in words of one syllable? That is the effect their childlike directness has upon one. They see the poetry of everything, and they speak of it plainly, with no great depth of thought, no striking power or subtlety, but with a consciousness, a recognition, of the mystery and unity of all things, too rare in bigger and stronger countries. Everybody knows Hans Christian Andersen; and his spirit is precisely that of Danish literature generally, carried to an extreme of simplicity and childish beauty. They say that he bored his friends, at dinner, at tea, always, with histories of the loves of the mustard-pot and the saltspoon, or anecdotes of the sugar-tongs that taught dancing. (Have most of us forgotten the time when each little article of household furniture had its special, almost human, character for us? Take the wonderful willow-pattern plate—what a romance its story is, how vivid, and exciting, and true! I am almost tempted to stop and tell it now; but I only heard it once properly told, in a farmhouse kitchen in Wales long ago, and I know I could not do it justice.)

But to return to Christmas and Copenhagen. There is the place for it! To begin with, winter is winter there; you may be sure that before the twenty-fifth of December every house in Denmark has had its windows frosted over with those white and sparkling flowers of which Andersen speaks so often. Do you remember how Kay and Gerda used to heat copper pennies and then place them against the panes, where they made round eyelets through which one could look into the street, and see the boys snowballing, or sliding, or going past with their skates, and the old postman going from door to door with Christmas letters? I think every Dane has told us something about Copenhagen; from Andersen—who as a lean country boy looked towards it as the centre of the universe, and never, I believe, outgrew the feeling—to Oehlenschlaeger, the great poet, and funny, vain, impetuous little man, and Holberg, Hertz, and the two Heibergs, who all wrote comedies about their neighbours, friends, rivals, in "the pleasant Northern capital."

If we go to the last of these—Johan Ludvig (the younger) Heiberg—we may learn just what Christmas was to him and his countrymen, as Dickens has shown us how it is spent in England; for Heiberg's *Christmas Jests and New-Year's Frolics* takes us, as it were in the stages of a dream, or in dissolving views, like those at the Polytechnic, through the crowded streets, the fair in the snow, the lonely churchyard, the merry homes where forfeits are cried and little plays are acted, the long frozen lake where lovers are skating, and the sea-beach on which the Old Year stands ready to depart. With him, as with all Danes, the sea is ever present, heard if not seen—the boundary, the horizon of every picture, an old friend, rough and grey, stern, remorseless, but a faithful defender, a constant aid and support.

Perhaps Heiberg is a little old-fashioned, and he is not a Dickens; but he is a poet, and we may trust a poet's account of Christmas—if it is not the real thing it is sure to be better. He shows us, first of all, in his *Christmas Jests* (which is meant, by-the-by, as a sequel to Oehlenschlaeger's *St. John's Eve*) the Archangel Gabriel, who wanders about at the sacred Yuletide, sometimes in disguise, sometimes seen, sometimes unseen, doing good to all, saving lives, drying all tears for this one day in the year at least. Under his invisible guidance we go out to the fair and to the church, to the city streets and the country roads; and everywhere out of doors we see the deep, white, silent, universal snow. It sparkles in the sun on roofs, walls, hedges, trees and gates and posts; it lies, kneedeep, in the moonshine, covering fields and lanes, outspread for miles around, only ending at the dark line of the distant sea; it is crunched under foot, soiled and hardened, in the busy pathways of the fair, in the thronged streets; it is furrowed into deep ruts along the country roads; it is piled up into forts by schoolboys, and kneaded into hard missiles, sharply and truly thrown and bravely met. When it falls its flakes are close, heavy, blinding, and dangerous; woe to the wayfarer who loses his path among them, who sinks to sleep upon the road—unless our Angel Gabriel be by to help him!

First of all, we are at the fair, at Amager. Long lines of booths, the snow surrounding them and even drifting up against them, stretch out with richest stores of toys, nuts, sweetmeats, gingerbread, innumerable temptations for the good townsfolk who come to buy presents for their little ones, and to give themselves as well (if must be owned) a rare and delightful treat. The street boys are here in legions, a plague alike to booth-keepers and customers; what little money there may have been amongst them was spent long ago, and they are perfectly free to snowball, make slides, play at hide-and-seek and other obstreperous games, and drive to despair all respectable middle-aged people. Here are stout and good-looking matrons, stopping for a minute—it is too cold to stand still longer—to discuss with friends and acquaintances their own new dresses and those of their neighbours, their children's complaints, and the progress of their Christmas cookery. The men meet, too, and chat a moment about the weather and their boys, and the danger of these plaguety slides; not a word of business interrupts the easy holiday talk—only the chaffing and joking with sellers of toys and sweets. Here and there are pretty girls, their cheeks ruddy in the bracing air, conscious of many regards from stranger eyes as they stand before the booths whose childish delights they have not really yet outgrown. There is one, a maiden of eighteen, whose round blue eyes and round rosy cheeks, beneath her fair plaited hair, might still almost belong to the little sister for whom she is buying the peppermint and sugar-candy, which are her own especial favourites. A cavalier (Heiberg has a quaint citizen-like way of talking about "cavaliers") approaches her,

and offers the support of his arm, as the frozen ground is slippery and dangerous. She declines, with the pretty shrewishness of Gretchen, and, walking on flushed and flurried, in a few steps slips and falls. He helps her up, hoping that she is not hurt, but reproving her want of trust in him; she declares that the fall was quite harmless, and is passing on, with the briefest word of thanks, when he points out that the contents of her basket—the sugar-candy and peppermint, with gingerbread, lead soldiers, toys and dolls—have all dropped out, and lie scattered on the ground. The maiden stops; tears gather in her eyes; in her first words of confidence, she says for what little brother and sister the presents were meant; quick as thought, the wicked street-boys have pounced upon them; she has plainly no more money with which to replace them. Here is a Christmas spoilt, it seems, until—the cavalier offers, so kindly and so gently, to buy fresh toys for her, to prevent the disappointment of the children at home. She cannot refuse; she chooses new gifts for all; she begins to chat, shyly but happily; she takes his arm—this time before he offers it. They disappear into the darkness—they fade away, as all is fading round them, while the Archangel Gabriel bears us on his broad wings to a fresh scene.

It is a warm and brightly-lighted room in a house in one of the principal streets of Copenhagen. A gentleman and a lady stand before the fire, with their little boy, whom they are telling gravely that he must go away, and leave them to themselves, if he desires that Santa Claus should bring him any present on the Christmas morning. Very reluctantly he goes into another room and sits by the window, looking out into the dark night and the snowy square. He is very little, and he has not yet been able to make up his mind how much of the supernatural there is about Santa Claus, and how much of his bounty is due to the consultations of papa and mamma, and their subsequent visits to the splendid toyshop in the large street round the corner. Meanwhile, the said papa and mamma determine that he shall have a box of lead soldiers (all of them, let us hope, steadfast) and a large book of the most beautifully coloured pictures.

We fly through the window into the square without, and, turning back, we see the boy's small round face, behind the glass, peering out into the shadowy night. As we look, a strange little blue bird flies out of the darkness, and, hovering about for a few moments, finally settles down upon the snow-covered window-sill. This is Phantasy, and he sings a sweet song about the beauties of the morrow—the gifts, and games, and merriment—to the wondering boy. It sounds to the passers-by, if any of them hear it, only like *pirrivi! pirrivi!* but we and the child know better; and, as we pass away, the boy and his parents, the wayfarers and the square itself, all melt into and become part of the wistful song of Phantasy.

As we journey through the air, past the broad streets into the open country, the scattered flakes of snow that have been constantly falling grow thicker and thicker, till we can see nothing but a feathery wall before and behind us, below and above. The measured beating of the Archangel's wings alone breaks the stillness; and we cannot tell by any outward sign that we have left the populous town behind, that we are alone in the desolate country.

We descend to the ground. No human eye could see, as no human power could save, the object of our flight. Almost covered by the thickly falling snow, there lies an old man, who, having lost his way and outworn his little strength in trying to regain it, has sunk into the fatal sleep—he does not suffer, he is quite unconscious, but before another hour is past he will be dead. The Archangel raises a bright and beautiful dream before him: he sees the herdsmen passing by, he hears Gabriel's voice direct them to the stable where the Child is shortly to be born, the celestial chorus, "Glory to God in the highest," rings out—and the old man awakes, new warmth in his limbs, new vigour in his heart, and under the angelic guidance passes on his way.

Whither? To home and comfort, let us hope; not where we are bound, to the cold and dark churchyard. Before us stands the church, tall and ghostly; on each side gaunt trees lift their haggard arms on high; everywhere are rounded graves, tombstones and slabs, all covered with a white and heavy mantle. The snow is no longer falling, but a high wind that has risen, and shrieks now and then along the night, whirled up in dusty clouds. In a sheltered corner by the church there is a little grave, wherein lies buried a child who died a year ago. It is almost midnight; all honest folk are in bed—all children should have been sleeping hours ago; yet hither creeps, thinly clad and shivering, a tiny girl of six years old. She kneels easily the grave where her one sister lies buried; she feels by it and prays—or rather speaks out of the fullness of her heart her misery and loneliness. For the past year she has had no friend, no playmate; she has wept alone, she had no joys because she had none to share them. Who will pity her, who will help, who will restore her only sister?

Above the grave a shadowy form is dimly seen; it is her Guardian Angel, who welcomes her, and promises that she shall see once more her lost sister and all others she loved who have passed away. The church clock strikes twelve; and on its last stroke the Angel clasps her in his arms and rises up and up to heaven.

Saint Peter, standing at the gate, cannot refuse the child admittance; and, with quaint Danish realism, we are shown the kingdom of Heaven. In its midst, on a throne, sits the Patriarch Abraham; at his side are Isaac and Jacob, and around them numerous little child-angels. Strangest of all, there stands a vast Christmas-tree, its branches lighted with countless brilliant stars; and here, reunited to her sister and to all she loves, we leave our little girl to spend her Christmas timidly resting in the Patriarch's bosom.

As we regain the earth it is already morning; church-bells are ringing everywhere, and people are walking to church through the quiet streets. We pass unseen among them, and hear their chat; we stand at the church door and hear the pealing organ and children's fresh voices rising in hymns of praise. Then the people come out, and discuss the sermon and its preacher; they go home, the Christmas dinner is eaten; the old men take a nap over the fire, the younger walk in the fields, children gambol about and endeavour in a hundred fantastic ways to make the time fly faster till the glories of the night are come.

We need not pause to look at the Christmas-tree; it has been described a hundred times. After its branches have been stripped, its lights put out, the smaller children kissed and sent to bed, these unsophisticated Danes of from seventy downwards join in boisterous games of forfeits. In one, a gentleman has to pay a compliment to eight ladies in succession, and immediately to negative it; saying, for example, "Your dress is a lovely one—but it would become anyone else better;" or, "Your eyes are beautiful—taken separately." In another, the fortunate gentleman is doomed to "make a bowl of punch." He goes first to one lady and asks for a bottle of rum—and she has to give him a kiss; to a second, and asks for three lemons—and she must give him three; to others, who have to furnish five pounds of sugar, seven gallons of water, a score of cloves. During this process young lovers become gradually more and more savage and jealous, until, perhaps, they are ordered by some kind judge of forfeits

to go together outside the door, and there settle the postage of a letter from distant parts—when they have it out and make it up.

As this scene disappears, and we are once more out in the night, sounds of music are still heard. We are at the edge of a frozen lake, by which a boy of nineteen kneels, putting on his skates. A house overlooks the lake, and in its balcony stand two lovers, who have left the dance going on within; they look at the moon, now nearly at its full, and say softly to each other words that a thousand lovers before them have whispered. They go in, and others take their places; these laugh merrily, and their mirth sounds kindly to the lad beneath. He has buckled on his skates, and stands, about to start—his eyes, peering through the mists which overhang the long lake, can see, further away than any but a lover's sight could reach, a glimmering cottage window, whose light is a signal that his loved one is awaiting him. Away he sweeps, swiftly as his lithe young legs will go, and the Archangel flies away over him, carrying him onward with the wind of his broad wings—the boyish figure disappears as the whistling of the skates is lost, and all fades into the night.

The dream is over. The dazzling robes glimmer in the distance, the music dies away, the *Christmas Jests* is ended, and we bid farewell to Heiberg and the honest citizens of Copenhagen.

E. ROSE.

## "THE PLEASURES OF HOPE."

If ever, as the poet relates, "Hope told a flattering tale," it is when she persuades these two boys that they are likely to get a slice of that Christmas pudding in the eating-house window. The elder lad, the poor, ragged Savoyard, with his fiddle capable of indefinite squeaking, has probably not seen this English dainty before, and views it with an eye of critical curiosity that half beguiles him of downright hunger. The little fellow with the slung satchel has a determined air of resolve to attack the tempting dish, if he could, and if he dared; and we should very much like to see him at it. Is it quite impossible that some good-natured bystander should disburse a silver coin upon the kindly practical joke of suddenly treating these youngsters to the object of their fond desire? What is that lady about, who has just come out of Robinson's drapery shop, with a few pieces of small change from the counter still in her hand, while she opens the morocco leather portemonnaie to put her money in? Ah! the boys are in rare luck, for her kind glance has fallen upon them, and she is thinking what fun it would be to see them enjoy a little bit of Christmas cheer. It is not every girl or young woman of her rank and breeding that would have the courage to play such a trick. But we remember how Mr. Black's heroine, in "A Princess of Thule," does very much the same kind of thing in a confectioner's shop at Brighton. It seems, therefore, as if the Pleasures of Hope, in this particular instance, were not doomed to prove utterly fallacious.

## THE VOLUNTEERS.

The National Rifle Association have made considerable alterations in the size of the targets for the next Wimbledon meeting, assimilating them in certain respects to the new regulation targets, and granting the concession of the "corners" at 500 and 600 yards, at which ranges the bull's-eye is increased two inches in diameter, a diminution of the same amount being made at the short range.

Many prize distributions have recently taken place.

On Thursday week Colonel Birt distributed the prizes to the 5th Essex, at their drill-hall, West Ham.

At St. James's Hall, yesterday week, the 36th Middlesex received their prizes from the hands of Colonel the Hon. Percy Fielding, C.B., the commanding officer of the Coldstream Guards, to which regiment they are attached. A ball terminated the proceedings.

At the Guildhall, last Saturday, the Lady Mayoress distributed the prizes annually awarded to the best marksmen of the 3rd City of London. The Lord Mayor was present.

On the same evening the annual distribution of prizes to the successful competitors of the 37th Middlesex took place in the new Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Colonel the Hon. Percy R. B. Fielding, C.B., Coldstream Guards, and Metropolitan Inspector of Reserve Forces, undertook the distribution. The Duke of Bedford's Challenge Cup, value £100, was won by Private Young.

The prizes won during the last year by the members of the 46th Middlesex were, on the same evening, presented to them by Mrs. Routledge, the wife of the commanding officer, in Westminster Hall.

General Sir John Adye presided, last Saturday night, at a presentation of prizes to the 26th Kent (Royal Arsenal) Rifle Volunteers, at Woolwich.

The Right Hon. W. E. Forster, M.P., distributed the prizes to the Bradford volunteers on Saturday afternoon.

The prizes of the 3rd Essex Artillery Volunteers have been presented to the winners at the Stratford Townhall. Lieutenant-Colonel Howard presided, in the unavoidable absence of the Lord Mayor (Sir Thomas White), who formerly commanded this regiment. The handsome challenge cup, valued at seventy guineas, given to the corps by the Lord Mayor, was taken by Sergeant Macklin's detachment of No. 8 battery.

The annual presentation of prizes to the 29th Middlesex took place, on Monday evening, at the St. Pancras Vestry Hall, the prizes being presented by Colonel Peters, in the absence of Lord Enfield, the honorary Colonel.

General Lord Alfred Paget, on Wednesday night, distributed the prizes won by members of the Tower Hamlets Rifle Brigade, at the head-quarters, Shaftesbury-street, Hoxton.

The prizes awarded to the members of the London Irish (28th Middlesex) for efficiency in shooting and drill were distributed, on Wednesday evening, at St. James's Hall, Regent-street. Lieutenant-Colonel Ward referred to the foundation of the corps, which he said was the outcome of a meeting of Irish residents in the metropolis as far back as December, 1859. The general council contained the names of many of the Irish aristocracy of that time, including Lord Palmerston and the Earl of Carlisle. On that list only one now remained with them—viz., their gallant Colonel-Commandant, the Marquis of Donegal. He was pleased to be able to state that the regiment continued in a satisfactory state, an addition of thirty-nine having been made to the roll during the year. At the close of the distribution the hall was cleared for dancing, and in the mean time the officers entertained their friends at an excellent supper.

An explosion of firedamp occurred, on Monday morning, at one of the pits of the South Wales Colliery Company at Aber-tillery, near Newport, Monmouthshire, resulting in great loss of life, one report which has reached us giving it as nineteen. The pit where the accident happened was regarded as one of the safest and best-ventilated in the locality.



## THE FUTURE EMPEROR OF RUSSIA.

The anxiety which now prevails throughout Europe with reference to the policy and destiny of the vast Russian Empire leads us to think of the person who is its Heir Apparent, though we must not hastily credit any of the rumours lately heard of an intended abdication of Alexander II. We give the Portrait of his Imperial Highness Alexander Alexandrovitch, Heir Apparent, who has been the expected successor to the throne since April, 1865, after the death of his elder brother, the late Grand Duke Nicholas. The present Czarvitch is thirty-one years of age, having been born in March, 1845; his father is the present Emperor Alexander, and his mother is the Empress Marie, daughter of the late Grand Duke Louis of Hesse. He was married, in November, 1866, to Princess Dagmar, a daughter of King Christian IX. of Denmark, but now styled the Grand Duchess Marie, the Czarvitch; and they have several children. His Imperial Highness is a Lieutenant-General of the Russian Army, also Hetman of the Cossacks, and Colonel of many regiments; he is reputed to have a great predilection for military employment.

The Portrait is from a photograph taken at St. Petersburg.

## NICOLAIEFF FLOATING DEPOSITING DOCK.

Steam-boat passengers on the Thames, during the past summer, have noticed a peculiar erection, resembling a long and lofty plain iron wall, being constructed at the Millwall Ironworks. This was to form part of a gridiron stage depositing dock, which was built by Messrs. Clark, Standfield and Co., of Westminster and Millwall, for the accommodation of the ironclads of the Russian Government at Nicolaieff, in the Black Sea. In this floating dock special arrangements are introduced for the purpose of docking, and depositing on a gridiron composed of piles, the large circular ironclads to which general attention has been recently drawn. This dock has lately been shipped to Russia, and is now being finally erected by Messrs. Clark and Standfield at the Imperial Dockyard at Nicolaieff. We give a general view of this dock, showing a vessel lifted on it out of the water, and ready to be deposited on the gridiron staging.

This system of docking vessels is a very novel one, and the dock for Nicolaieff is the first construction of the kind. It is 280 ft. in length, and is made capable of being separated into three portions, each complete as a small dock; the two outer portions are each 100 ft. and the middle portion is 80 ft. in length. The dock consists of a number of pontoons of nearly square section, ranged parallel to each other at right angles to the length of the dock, the plan thus resembling a comb. They are all alike, and each is 72 ft. long, 15 ft. broad, and 18 ft. high, and is divided into watertight compartments by upright bulkheads. The whole lifting power of the dock is applied in these pontoons directly under the vessel. The dock has no tendency to turn either way, and is so constructed that when all its working compartments are filled with water, thus sinking the dock as deep as it will go, it floats perfectly level, with its deck several feet above the water. The side of the dock, therefore, to which the pontoons are attached is never totally submerged, but is of sufficient height to allow a free-board of 6 ft. or 7 ft. when the pontoons are sunk beneath a vessel. When the dock is raised the upper sides or decks of the pontoons are well above water, and the side of the dock stands up some feet higher than the deck of the vessel, which is supported on the pontoons. Four of the pontoons are attached to the middle portion of the side of the dock, and five to each of the outer portions. The height of the side is 44 ft. 6 in., and its breadth is 12 ft. Each portion is provided with separate engine-rooms, engines, pumps, and valves. The two long parallel pontoons, attached to the dock on the side opposite to that on which are the pontoons supporting the vessel, are designated the "outrigger." The use of the outrigger is to ensure ample stability during the operation of raising and lowering a vessel, as a dock with only one side would at such times be unstable, though very stable when either submerged or raised. This contrivance gives it immense stability; the outrigger, which is loaded with concrete ballast until half submerged, carries a row of rigid uprights, stiffened by struts, and projecting some distance above and below its pontoons. To the top and bottom of each of these uprights is hinged a pair of parallel booms, which are also hinged at their other ends to the side of the dock, so that the outrigger remains stationary, while the dock is free to be raised and lowered vertically, being always maintained in a horizontal position by the action of the parallel booms. The movement is exactly similar to that of an ordinary parallel ruler. When the three portions of the dock are joined end to end the dock is adapted for raising and depositing ironclads of the ordinary form; but when the dock is arranged so as to form a dock with two sides, it is suited for receiving circular ironclads up to 140 ft. in diameter; the largest circular ironclad now in existence is 120 ft. in diameter this important modification is due to the inventive genius of the experienced Russian naval engineer, Admiral Popoff.

The staging on which the vessel has to be deposited consists of a series of piles, driven into the ground in rows parallel to each other. These rows, standing at right angles to the shore, are capped by horizontal timbers.

When raised on the dock the height of the vessel above the water is somewhat greater than the height of the staging; so that when the dock, with the vessel on it, is brought alongside the staging, the pontoons can enter freely between the rows of piles, and the vessel is carried directly over the staging without touching it. The dock is then slightly lowered, by admitting water into the pontoons, until the vessel rests upon the keel blocks on the fixed staging. The vessel is now properly secured by means of bilge blocks and shores; the dock is then lowered just clear of the vessel, and drawn out from the staging, and is at once ready to receive another vessel. The ship has thus been gently transferred to the staging without any sliding or other motion whatever.

The water compartments of the dock are more than a hundred in number, and are connected with the pumps by separate pipes, which are all brought to the valve-house and there divided into four groups, corresponding with the four quarters of the dock; every pipe has its own valve. Each of these four groups is governed by a principal valve, and a glance at the spirit-level at once enables the valve engineer to ascertain and control the action of each group and compartment. The time occupied in lifting any vessel will be about an hour. The dock cannot under any circumstances sink, even if all its valves be purposely left open. The machinery for working the dock is carried in the chambers of the side; it consists of a number of powerful centrifugal pumps worked by three 25-horse power semi-portable engines. When a vessel has been raised on the dock the outrigger can be removed, to allow of the dock, with the vessel on it, being taken through any narrow and shallow channel or entrance. Any one of the three complete portions (or small docks) into which this dock is divisible can readily dock the others for purposes of cleaning and repair.

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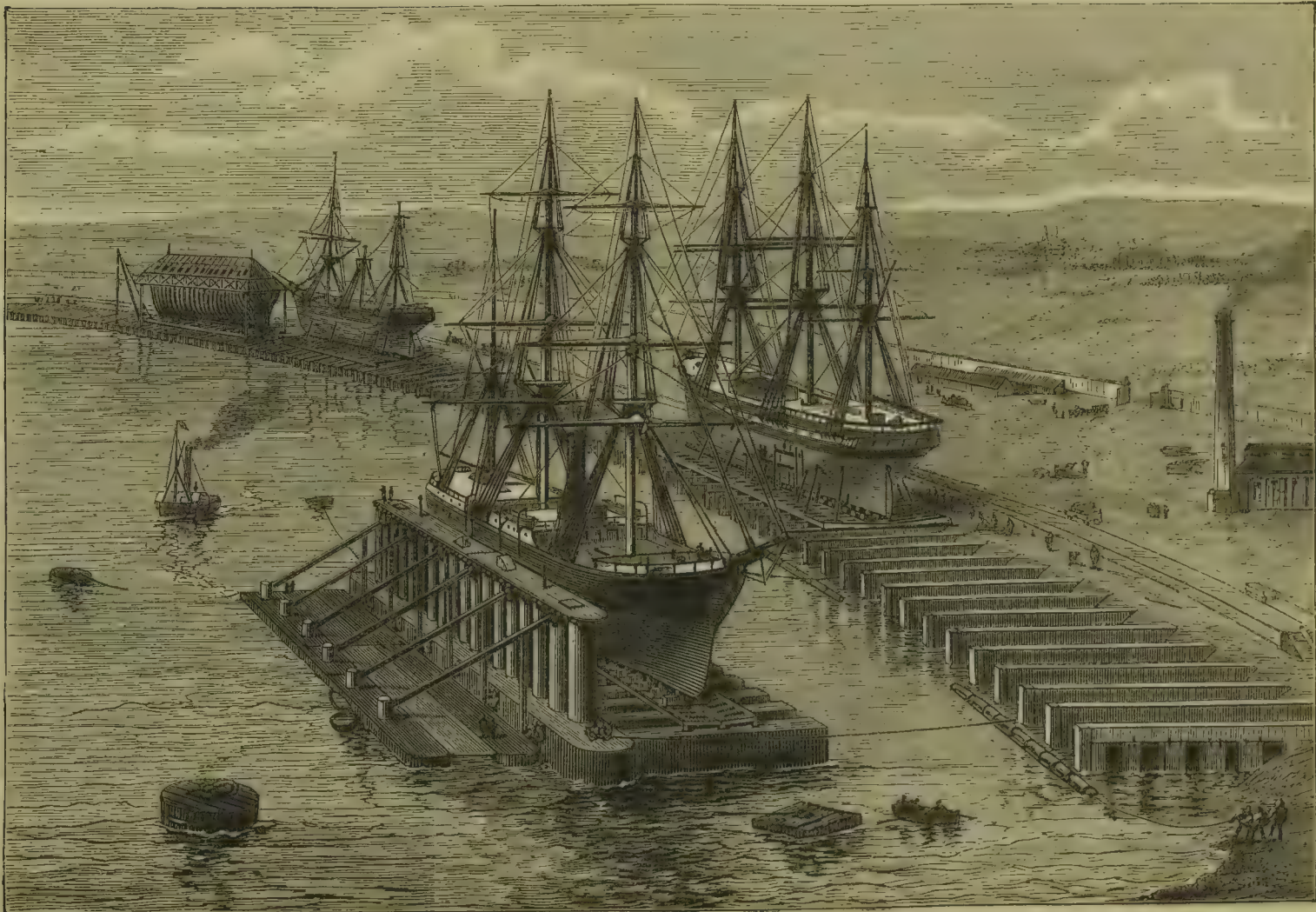


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GRANDFATHER'S BIRTHDAY.

BY LOUIS LE NOIR.





CHRISTMAS PAPERS FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE. BY W. H. OVEREND.



## HOW WE SPENT OUR CHRISTMAS IN DISCOVERY BAY.

BY THE REV. CHARLES E. HODSON, M.A.,  
LATE CHAPLAIN OF H.M.S. DISCOVERY.

Christmas comes but once a year,  
And when it comes it brings good cheer.

So runs the old rhyme; and we of the Discovery determined that it should be verified in our little community in 1875. A week's holiday was given to the men by the Captain, commencing on Christmas Day, and every day saw some amusement, such as theatricals, lectures, concerts, or the like. "Here you are, my boy!" says a shipmate, in the vortex of gaiety, and in a perfect whirl of pleasure and dissipation. A cask of nut-brown ale was broached on Christmas Eve, and served out daily till it came to an end. Even such trifles as these are remembered; but if one had dared to connect the words *trifle* and *beer* in those days of short allowances one would speedily have been voted a fit inmate for Hanwell.

The first announcement we received of the arrival of the Christmas festival was the sound of carols in the middle of the night. This was a little surprise planned by the Sergeant, chief boatswain's-mate, and some other energetic members of the choir. They visited, first of all, the quarters of the Captain and First Lieutenant, repeating their performance in the ward-room, and receiving the thanks of the awakened officers for bearing them homewards, in spirit at least, for one brief moment. The waits ended by singing once more for their comrades on the lower deck, and then we all sank again into that heavy slumber or torpor to which an Arctic winter's night so strongly conduces.

Next morning prayers were read by the Chaplain on the lower deck, as on Sundays, the Sergeant accompanying the hymns with a harmonicon; and the cooking-galley sending forth a fragrant odour, indicative of an approaching feast of exceptional dignity. Service over, the officers made the circuit of the lower deck, according to custom. Christmas greetings were exchanged with the men, and the ornaments of their messes admired and praised. These sometimes exhibited considerable taste and ingenuity. There were legends and mottoes suitable to the season blazoned on scrolls and affixed to the walls and beams. In one mess a number of little cardboard sailors, in blue jackets and white ducks, manned yards, standing on a horizontal bar. There were plates in each mess covered with little pieces of pudding which we were requested to taste. Several huge plum-puddings had been given us by friends in England, and very good they proved.

Large chests were produced and placed in the middle of the deck. When opened they were seen to contain presents for all hands, the names having been already affixed by the donors at home. The Captain drew them forth, and as each was produced the name of the owner was called. Much amusement was caused as the gifts were distributed; the oldest man on board, old Dougall the ice quartermaster, received a monkey on a pole; a jack-in-the-box, that jumped up with a squeak, fell to the lot of the doctor, and the Chaplain was given an indiarubber ball. The choir sang the "Roast Beef of Old England," and "God Save the Queen." Cheers were given for the Captain and officers, for absent comrades in the Alert, and for donors of presents; we then left the men to proceed to their dinner.

We took luncheon, and divided a number of presents which had been given in England. There were some beautiful etchings, knives, puzzles, and a variety of things both amusing and useful. A game of pool enabled us to pass the afternoon pleasantly. A billiard-table had been kindly presented to us by the father of one of the officers, and this was placed in the ward-room twice a week throughout the winter, when most of us joined in a game.

In honour of the occasion we dined at five o'clock instead of at half-past two, our usual hour. We were hardly able to appear in full dress, as our wardrobes were, for the most part, limited to box cloth and flannel garments. Yet one officer appeared resplendent in white shirt and mess-jacket, eclipsing us all, and by his splendour dazzling the eyes of all beholders. Another was equally ambitious, though not so successful; for, chancing to rise from the table, it was seen that the finery previously visible degenerated into sealskin pantaloons and moccasins of deers' hide, and loud laughter was the result of this discovery.

Who would be  
A merman bold?

says Tennyson. I have never seen one of those creatures; but should fancy that our friend's appearance—half man, half seal—partially represented the Laureate's idea.

But in his capacity of mess-caterer our quaintly-attired friend certainly excelled himself on Christmas Day; and it will be seen by the *menu* that an Arctic dinner is not always to be despised. The following is the bill of fare:—

*Soup.*  
Mulligatawny.  
*Fish.*  
Salmon.  
*Entrées.*  
Mutton Cutlets and Tomato Sauce. Sausages and Bacon. Salmon.  
Deviled Biscuit.  
*Joints.*  
Haunch of Mutton. Ham. Corned Pork. Roast Turkey.  
*Vegetables.*  
Potatoes. Green Peas.  
*Sweets.*  
Plum Pudding. Minced Pies. Gooseberry Tart. Macaroni Cheese.  
*Anchovy Toast.*  
Dessert.  
Cheese.

While sitting over the wine and fruits after dinner, a number of crackers were snapped, and found to contain paper nightcaps, Dolly Varden hats, and other head-dresses of coloured paper, and in these we arrayed ourselves. The Quartermaster, coming in just then to make a report, seemed utterly bewildered, and I saw him, when outside the door, again stealing a long glance at us, as well he might. After dinner, we surrounded the well-used piano in the steerage, and songs and glees became the order of the day—even those ordinarily the most silent being heard to join enthusiastically in "Auld Lang Syne" and "Hardy Norsemen." Whisky punch was then brewed and was universally appreciated, and the usual *habitués* of the whist table enjoyed their accustomed rubbers.

The band, consisting of drums, fifes, and fiddle, performed on the lower deck several times during the day, and played at the ward-room dinner, as they ordinarily did on great occasions.

Altogether the Christmas was a great success, and all enjoyed as merry a day as they could have done anywhere, even at Plymouth itself.

Neither was the cold any inconvenience, the ship being quite warm enough for comfort. The ward-room cook appeared magnificent in white jacket, trousers, and shirt, reminding one of the sunny seas and smiling skies of the genial south. But some people imagine that the cold

is severely felt inside the ship as well as in the open air. For instance, I have seen a picture of an Arctic Christmas dinner, in which the feasters are represented as dressed in thick skin coats, huge caps on their heads, with the flaps tied over their ears, and their knives and forks grasped by hands encased in sealskin mitts! I need hardly say that such is *not* the case.

New-Year's Day completed the Christmas festival. Sixteen bells (twice the ordinary number) was struck at midnight by the youngest officer. On this signal being given, having previously obtained permission, the band struck up festive strains on the lower deck; but the sound of fifes was quite drowned by the roll of big drums and the clamour of the men.

In the evening there was a musical entertainment in the ship, some of the men singing very good songs. John Bunyan, a petty officer, was inimitable; he is a master of pantomime and mimicry, and used to convulse us all with laughter on these occasions, as he delineated the eccentricities of "Medical Jack," the quack doctor, and Costermonger Ned. Emmerson, the chief boatswain's mate, was also most amusing, and the best dancer on board. There was an officers' and a men's glee club, and each of them assisted, rendering such pieces as "Here's a health to all good lasses" and "See our oars with feathered spray" with great effect and vigour. Wyatt, our printer, also gave an original composition of his own as a recitation, in which he touched on passing events, and expressed the intention of himself and his friends to do the most they could in the approaching sledging season.

Many a festive Yuletide may be yet in store for us amongst our friends at home; but we shall never forget, and cannot hope to eclipse, the joyous Christmas that we kept in 1875 in the cold and darkness of the Far North.

The Alert commemorated Christmas Day in a similar manner, and, after dinner, there was a dance, in which both officers and men took part. O'Regan, an Irish seaman belonging to the Discovery, always bubbling over from an excess of hilarious spirits and buoyancy of feelings, addressed the grave commander of the expedition, "Shure, Captain, darlint, won't ye dance wid me?" But the proffered honour was declined with courtesy and a laugh by the much-loved officer in question.

## CHRISTMAS PAPERS FOR THE LIGHTHOUSE.

The lonely situation of a couple of lighthouse keepers, shut up in their tower upon a rock surrounded by the raging waves of the sea in this wintry season, must appeal to the sympathy of landmen as well as to the gratitude of sailors. Any kind of Christmas comfort that may be sent out for their particular consolation would seem to be well bestowed. We do not exactly see how they are to get a regular Christmas dinner, with its roast turkey, and the boiled plum-pudding illuminated with blazing brandy. Some festive addition, however, should be contributed by their friends on shore to relieve the monotony of their daily rations. It is not unusual for one of these men to have his wife and family living in a cottage, perhaps within sight of his own marine abode and post of duty. They may, in all probability, have taken care to purchase in the neighbouring town or village a few cheap materials for a little Christmas feast, proportioned to their slender purse. It may be a duck, a bit of meat, or a bunch of sausages, with companion greens; or half a dozen mince-pies, with a bottle of whisky, an ounce of tobacco, or half a pound of tea or coffee, or whatever the weather-beaten hermit and mate have chosen to like best. They have leisure time for reading, also, when the lantern is duly attended to, the lamps, oil and wicks put in complete order, the mirrors and lenses perfectly cleaned, and the revolving mechanism set in proper gear. If any poor fellow, in such a position, should beguile the spare hours of a solitary vigil with our Christmas Number, we heartily wish him joy of that literary gratification, and we feel that our labours are not spent in vain.

## MUSIC.

The Crystal Palace Saturday afternoon concerts terminated for the year with the twelfth of the series, last week, when the performances consisted of a selection from the works of Beethoven, in commemoration of the anniversary of his birth, which event took place on Dec. 16, 1770. The overture to the ballet of "Prometheus" illustrated the earlier period of his career (1800), when still under the influence of Mozart's style—his middle and latest periods having been exemplified by the greatest of all pianoforte concertos, his fifth and last in E flat, now known as the "Emperor" (composed in 1809); and the ninth (or "choral") symphony, including a setting of Schiller's "Ode to Joy," this belonging to the year 1824. The orchestral playing was of the exceptionally high order which is special to these concerts. The solo vocal passages in the finale of the symphony were efficiently sung by Mesdames Blanche Cole and Antoinette Sterling, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. H. A. Pope; and the choral portions were well rendered by the Crystal Palace choir. The concerto was brilliantly executed by Madame Arabella Goddard. Besides the pieces mentioned, the programme comprised the soprano recitative and cavatina from the cantata, "The Praise of Music," sung by Madame Blanche Cole (the choral passages by the Crystal Palace choir); "Adelaide," by Mr. Lloyd; and the lieder, "Wonne der Wehmuth" and "Neue liebe neues Leben," by Madame Sterling. Mr. Manns conducted, as usual. The series will be resumed on Feb. 3, with a concert selected from Mendelssohn's works, in commemoration of the anniversary of the composer's birth.

The Saturday afternoon and Monday evening Popular Concerts have also closed for the year. Last Saturday's performance included Haydn's bright and genial string quartet in B flat (No. 3 of op. 55), finely played by Madame Norman-Néruda and MM. L. Ries, Zerbini, and Piatti; Weber's first sonata for piano solo (in C), excellently rendered by Mr. Charles Hallé, as was Beethoven's trio in G major, with that gentleman as pianist, in association with Madame Néruda and Signor Piatti. This was the lady violinist's last appearance here this season. Mr. Sims Reeves was to have appeared, but, on account of indisposition, was suddenly replaced by Mdlle. Redeker, who sang some German lieder, accompanied by Mr. Zerbini. The next Popular Concert will take place on Monday evening, Jan. 8.

Last week's performance of "St. Paul," on the Friday, by the Sacred Harmonic Society, was characterised by those grand effects which are special to these concerts, with their assemblage of some seven hundred executants. The noble choruses of the oratorio were sung with immense power, and the solos were generally well rendered by Madame Lemmens-Sherrington, Miss Julia Elton, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Signor Foli. Mr. Lloyd was encased in the cavatina, "Be thou faithful." Sir M. Costa conducted, and Mr. Willing presided at the organ.

A new oratorio entitled "Mount Moriah—The Trial of Abraham's Faith," was performed at the Angell Town Insti-

tution, Brixton, on Monday evening. The text consists of passages selected from the Scriptures, and the music is the composition of Dr. Bridge, of Westminster Abbey. The work bears traces of being a first attempt of the kind. The most successful portions are the choruses, which seem to evidence some practice in writing for an assemblage of voices. The opening choral movement, "Blessed is the man," is tuneful, and the chorus "Unto the godly" is bright and animated, with some reflection of Mendelssohn's style. The concluding portion of the choruses "They that wait upon the Lord," and "Thy mercy, O Lord," consists, in each case, of a fugue, in which the writer shows that he has studied counterpoint to some purpose. The important passages assigned to the narrator were well declaimed by Madame Suter, who was applauded in several instances, especially in her solo "The eyes of the Lord." Miss Joyce Maas, Mr. J. Merrington, and Mr. Thurley Beale were efficient, respectively, in the solo music of the Angel, Isaac, and Abraham. The choruses were well sung by a select choir, which was supported by a compact orchestra, and an organ accompaniment played by Mr. Boardman; Dr. Bridge having conducted the performance.

The approach of Christmas always brings a comparative lull in London music, which at this period is limited to performances of the work most appropriate to the religious aspect of the season, Handel's "Messiah." This sublime oratorio was given by the Royal Albert Hall Choral Society on Monday and Thursday evenings, at the Crystal Palace on Tuesday evening, and by the Sacred Harmonic Society at Exeter Hall yesterday (Friday) evening.

The amusements of Boxing Day will, as usual, include musical performances at the Royal Albert Hall. Mr. Sims Reeves and Signor Foli are announced to appear.

On Boxing Night and the following evening two popular concerts of English ballads and operatic music will be given at St. Andrew's Hall, Norwich. The Bank Holiday concert will be devoted to Balfe's productions—the works selected being "The Bohemian Girl," "The Siege of Rochelle," and "The Talisman." Madame Rose Hersee and Miss Palmer are among the vocalists announced to appear. Balfe's posthumous opera, "The Talisman," will be exhibited in the hall.

Competitions at the Royal Academy of Music took place on Monday. For the Westmorland Scholarship, Miss Marian Williams was elected, and Miss Annie Albu highly commended. For the Potter Exhibition, Miss Kate Steel was elected; Miss Margaret Bucknall highly commended, and Miss Fanny Boxell commended. The Balfe Scholarship (endowed from the proceeds of the Balfe Memorial Festival, in July, 1876, in memory of Michael William Balfe) was awarded to Master William Sewell.

Mr. G. F. Anderson died, on Thursday week, at the age of eighty-three. The deceased gentleman was for many years conductor of the Queen's private band, an appointment which was a few years ago bestowed on his nephew, Mr. W. G. Cousins, conductor of the Philharmonic Society's concerts. Of this society, and of the Royal Society of Musicians, Mr. Anderson was for a long period the honorary treasurer.

## THEATRES.

### LYCEUM.

The resumption of the management of this house by Mrs. Bateman is a noteworthy incident, and of good promise for the real interests of the drama. Especially welcome, also, is Mr. Henry Irving's return to the London stage. He has been remarkably fortunate in the provinces; and, in addition, honoured by an especial collegiate presentation-address in Dublin. These advantages have been fairly earned by him; they are due to the general intellectual style of his acting, and the daring originality of many of his conceptions. Mr. Irving is a Thinking actor, and this involves, necessarily, a world of excellence in the actor's art. Mr. Irving has inaugurated his new London season by a performance of Macbeth—the merits of which are already well known to the public. In nothing does he now fall short of his former aim, his acting has lost nothing of its former vigour. The purpose designed is consistently maintained, and his ability to execute and carry out his ideas is evidently strengthened. In every respect he shows wonderful improvement. Miss Bateman's Lady Macbeth is also great and significant, in all the phases of the character. It culminates, too, at a steady pace; and the final triumph is reached by easy stages. Miss Bateman is a thorough artist, and she gives a decided meaning to every line she utters. Two such intelligent performers, embodying in each word a correspondent thought, in two such characters, are enough of themselves to constitute a public attraction. The play, however, is, in general, well cast. Mr. T. Swinbourne is very good in Macduff; and the three witches are most efficiently rendered by Mr. Mead, Mr. Archer, and Mrs. Huntley. Mr. E. Brooke as Banquo and Mr. Walter Bentley as Malcolm, are both satisfactory representatives of their respective characters. Miss Pannecorff is Hecate, Mr. E. Lyons Ross, and Mr. Huntley Duncan. The scenery and stage accessories are in all respects complete, and the various groupings remarkably picturesque. The disposition of the action throughout has been carefully studied, and is for the most part of first-rate excellence. Besides which, we have the tragedy in its purity, relieved from operatic exorcism. Day performances of the tragedy are promised for Saturdays; in the evenings Miss Bateman will appear as Leah.

### OPERA COMIQUE.

Mr. H. J. Byron has produced from his fertile brain another of those farce-comedies which have procured him so much reputation and profit. These depend on facetious dialogue and small incidents, that keep the mind of the audience in motion, sometimes excite it to a manifestation, not altogether favourable, and yet generally conduct to a final verdict, ensuring a long run to the new drama. "Old Chums," as Mr. Byron's latest play is entitled, has about it all the facilities, fatalities, and other insignia of his former and more successful productions, and will doubtless partake of the chances and changes in their eventful history. The two chums are two schoolboys, Richard Jones and Thomas Smith, who are both in love with Miss Amaranth Greythorpe. For her they wrangle and fight, ultimately toss which shall have her, and engage in a comic duel on her account. After all, the lady is a mere adventuress. Smith, on the toss-up, has the advantage; but, being compelled to visit Paris, leaves the wily fair one to the care of Jones. The result is a scene between Mr. Byron and Miss Litton, which stimulated the audience. Smith returns at the end of the second act, when the conflict takes place between the rivals. The dispute ends in a reconciliation and the loss to both of Miss Amaranth, who has all along been angling for a rich husband, and at last secures a Mr. Tracy Topps. The part of Richard Jones was, as we have already intimated, filled by Mr. Byron himself, and caused much laughter. Mr. Terry was charged with Thomas Smith, and laboured hard to make him ridiculous. Mr. Charles, as Tracy Topps, was an excellent fop. Miss Marie Litton dressed the adventuress expensively and variously, and made



her points with her usual precision. Generally, the performers did their utmost to make the piece go, and probably the public will generously aid in preserving its existence.

#### ALHAMBRA.

Monday was the first night of a comic opera in three acts, entitled "Die Fledermaus," the music by Johann Strauss. The piece has been adapted to the English stage by Hamilton Clarke, who has added some choral and ballet music. A grand bal masqué takes place in the second act. Every justice was done to the characters by the artists, male and female, six of one and half a dozen of the other. The piece is as likely to become as popular in this country as in Germany. The story is familiar, many of its points having been tried and tested in former works by other dramatists. It is the old story of the wife's lover being locked up instead of her husband, who has been let out of prison on bail and sups with his friends. The scene in the present play is placed on German soil, and the famous supper is held in a garden, where the party make a Watteau kind of picture. The music, so far as it goes, is very pleasing; but the dialogue is capable of considerable improvement. Of the songs, a laughing chorus is the most distinguished, excellently sung by Miss Munroe, Miss Robson, and Miss Beaumont. The mounting of the opera throughout is first rate. Its success is certain.

#### CHRISTMAS NOVELTIES.

At the Adelphi, after the performance of "The Shaughraun," the Little American Wonder, Baby Benson, on Monday, put in an appearance, and was warmly received in her Characteristic Specialities. The entertainments concluded with the farce of "Mr. and Mrs. White." There will be a Christmas novelty at this theatre—a pantomime acted entirely by children, but during the morning only. "Little Goody Two-Shoes; or, Harlequin Little Boy Blue," is the title and theme. Master and Miss Grattan appear, with other tiny performers. There will be likewise a miniature harlequinade. The music has been arranged and composed by Mr. Ellis.

At Drury Lane the story of "The Forty Thieves" will be the subject of what Mr. E. L. Blanchard calls his Christmas Annual; such subject, it seems, never having been previously represented on the boards of our national theatre. Much care has been taken in regard to the reproduction of Oriental scenery, manners, and customs. The two first scenes take us to the Market-place at Bagdad and to the Divan of the Genii on Meerschaum Rocks in Amber Island. Mr. Frederick Vokes as Ali Baba, and Miss Rosina Vokes as his son Ganem, will doubtless satisfy holiday-folk, together with Mr. Walter Vokes as Lieutenant Hassarac. The harlequinade will be supported by a double company of pantomimists. Morning performances will be given every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday.

At Covent Garden, a gorgeous pantomime on the most costly scale is promised, to be called "Robinson Crusoe," with scenery by Mr. Telbin, and a powerful company, and a ballet, comprehending more than 140 ladies.

At the Olympic, a new American sensation drama has been performed, entitled "Si Slocum," in which the Frayne Family make their first appearance in London, and, as the Kentucky Rifle Team, exhibit some wonderful shooting effects. This, it appears, is designed for the holiday spectacle.

A Children's Grand Christmas Pantomime will be given at the Aquarium Theatre, Westminster, called "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star; or, Harlequin Goody Goose and her Good Little Geese," with music by M. Dubois.

The Grecian pantomime, by Messrs. George Conquest and H. Spry, is entitled "Grim Goblin; or, Harlequin Octopus, the Devil Fish, and the Fairies of the Flowery Dell, with a wondrous fight scene, as usual, between father and son, and as novel as it is marvellous.

At the Princess's, the play of "Jane Shore" will be continued, supplemented, however, by a ballet-pantomime, entitled "Jocko; or, the Brazilian Ape," in which the Martinetti troupe will appear. The scenery will be furnished by Mr. F. Lloyds.

At the Strand, a new and original Christmas burlesque, entitled "The Flying Dutchman," was produced on Thursday, with music by Alfred Lee and scenery by Mr. H. P. Hall.

At the Gaiety, Mr. Reece will contribute a new burlesque, called "William Tell Told Again."

Sanger's will present a comic Christmas pantomime, entitled "Gulliver on his Travels," which, we see, also includes the no less famous individuals, Robinson Crusoe and his Man Friday.

At Hengler's Grand Cirque the visitor will renew his acquaintance with the spectacle of "Cinderella; or, The Little Glass Slipper."

At the Standard the pantomime is entitled "Open Sesame; or, Harlequin the Forty Robbers of the Magic Cave." The Turkey question furnishes the argument, and the Turk is presented as "the wicked hero." In the interior of the magic cavern a ballet, called "The Revels of the Cavern Charmers," will take place, culminating in some extraordinary spectacular effects. The business then follows closely that of the well-known romance; but soon the opportunity is given for a grand triumphal procession of the great Oil Merchant into the city, including a stud of forty ponies, richly caparisoned. The transformation scene represents the Golden Gardens of Enchantment. It is needless to add that the work is written by Mr. John Douglass, and that morning performances of it will be given.

The Surrey names its intended spectacle "Jack and Jill; or, Harlequin Sing a Song of Sixpence, the Demon Blackbirds, and the Good Fairies of the Gold and Silver Ferne." The author is Mr. F. W. Green. The theatre is still under the management of Mr. W. Holland.

The Marylebone rejoices in the title of "Little Jack Horner who sat in a Corner; or, Harlequin Oranges and Lemons say the Bells of St. Clement's," to be produced on a scale of great splendour; and the Elephant and Castle recommends to transpontine notice "Little Tom Tucker, who Sang for his Supper; or, Harlequin Robin Hood and Little John."

A new entertainment is advertised to be produced on Boxing Day at St. George's Hall by Mr. and Mrs. German Reed. Its title is "Our Doll's House," a fairy vision in one peep, written by Mr. W. Wye, and musically illustrated by Mr. Cotford Dick. The introduction of doll-characters will enable the author to indulge in good-humoured remarks on the follies of the day, and to perpetrate sundry puns and criticisms. The dolls are to change their wooden for a human existence, if they can agree, like the couple who sometimes claim the Flitch of Bacon; but as they are, like ourselves, not devoid of faults, this consummation of their hopes is never realised, and they eventually resume their senseless forms. Mr. Burnand's last and very amusing novelty, "Matched and Mated," will be retained in the Christmas programme, as well as Mr. Corney Grain's song "Our Table d'Hôte." In addition to the usual performances, two more representations will be given on Tuesday (Boxing Day) and on Wednesday, at three.

This year's Crystal Palace pantomime, which will be produced under the direction of Mr. Charles Wyndham, is entitled "Sindbad the Sailor," and is from the pen of the Brothers Grimm. The scenery of the opening is by Mr. F. Fenton and Mr. Julian Hicks, and the great transformation scene is again intrusted to the imaginative pencil of Mr. O. Brew.

#### MY FIRST AND MY LAST PANTOMIME.

BY DUTTON COOK.

It was a very great many years ago, I need hardly tell you. Pigtales had not yet wholly vanished, and many elderly gentlemen still retained their faith in brass buttons, in profuse shirt-frills, in "knees" and silk stockings. My poor sister Deborah was a little slip of a thing in a sprigged frock, with her hair cut short—as the fashion then was for girls—with trousers to her ankles, and a string of red coral beads round her neck. I was but a year older, a flaxen-headed urchin, with a frilled collar, the smartest of striped jackets, and the trimmest of Spanish leather silver-buckled shoes. I won't be precise as to the date. I will only repeat that it was a great many years ago. Grandpapa was to fulfil a promise of some standing. Deb. and I were to see our first pantomime: to be introduced to those very celebrated characters, Harlequin and Columbine, Clown and Pantaloon. No wonder we were excited and nervous and anxious. We were bidden to go to bed at mid-day, and prepare ourselves by rest and sleep for the exertions and fatigues of the evening. But how could we sleep when expectation was so busy with us, kindling such bright light in our eyes, and setting our cheeks aflame, till they glowed like blush-roses at sunset? No; there was no sleep for us until after we had seen the pantomime. Then, without doubt, we should be ready to sleep sound as tops!

How eager we were to sally forth to the playhouse! How angry with the hackney coachman in that he would drive his sorry quadrupeds after so leisurely a fashion! We were even a little cross with grandpapa: he seemed somehow unusually sluggish of movement, deliberate of manner, upon that eventful evening. We were inclined to stamp with vexation to see him so painfully slow in adjusting his glasses ere he drew forth his crimson silk purse, about half a yard long and tasselled at the ends, and conducted his solemn search of its extremities for silver to pay the "Jarvey" (as, for unknown reasons, the coachman was commonly called in those days) and for our admission to the theatre. Suppose he had not brought with him sufficient money! Agonising thought! And then other dire misgivings troubled us. What if we could not obtain seats! What if the entertainment had commenced before our arrival! What if the clown had been taken ill, and the performance postponed! How often we had entreated grandpapa to look at his watch, and conjured him to set forth in good time;—it was so much better, so very much better, as we argued, with precocious airs of sagacity, to be too early than to be too late. Well, well; we were in excellent time, as it proved. The doors had but just opened, with a jolt, and a shiver, and a crash. We were enabled to secure quite the best seats in the house. If we had paid double price for them and had them expressly reserved for us we could not have been better suited. We sat on the front bench of the pit—there were no stalls in those times, and very worthy and even genteel people were then content to sit in the pit—and when I was mounted on grandpapa's knee I could see perfectly, having a clear view over the heads of the fiddlers. I was, I must confess, a great pet of grandpapa's. He was very fond of Deborah, but he was fonder still of me; for, as it happened, I was his only grandson, whereas he had other granddaughters besides Deb.

The atmosphere of the theatre might, perhaps, fairly be described as a trifle close and dust-laden; but we found no fault with it. To our thinking, the combined odours of orange-peel and lamp-oil were very agreeable; for, of course, gas-lights were unknown at the period of our First Pantomime. And then, how new and pleasant to us were the cries of the traders, as they pushed their way hither and thither vending apples, oranges, ginger-beer, and bills of the play! How interesting to hear one Tom calling from his own corner of the gallery to Jim, seated at a remote distance, and inquiring whether he (Jim) had seen anything of 'Arry! What fun when a hat fell from above into the depths of the pit, to be recovered, after infinite toil and turmoil, by means of a fishing-line of knotted pocket-handkerchiefs of all colours, and collected from various owners! There was even a pungent suggestiveness about the moist printers' ink upon the large, crackling, flapping folio playbill. And the vast green baize curtain facing us—with what reverence we viewed it! On what mysterious delights, exquisite visions and illusions was it presently to rise! Already the performers in the orchestra were tuning their instruments; the gallery visitors were noisily exhorting them to "play up;" especially addressing one of them by the name of "Nosey!" That was the rude way of "the gods" of years ago.

There was a tragedy, I think, played before the pantomime. It was usual in those days to preface merriment by dolefulness. And probably the instructive story of Mr. George Barnwell was duly set before us, and we witnessed patiently, if with imperfect sympathies, the sins and the remorse of that unhappy apprentice, his absurd affection for the wicked Mistress Milwood, his assassination of his worthy and wealthy uncle, and his ultimate punishment upon the scaffold. But I declare I have little recollection now of those affecting incidents. I am looking back upon an expansive plain, as it were, over which a thick mist is rising. Certain landmarks I can plainly discern; but my own footprints on the way I have journeyed are oftentimes lost to me. Outlines are blurred by shadows, and here and there an impenetrable gloom has settled; sometimes, too, I can see nothing because of my tears. But I will not let sad thoughts occupy me now. I have to speak of a thing which I remember perfectly, as though it only happened yesterday, which I shall not, indeed, easily forget—the voluminous and long-sustained roar of delight which welcomed the appearance of "Joey" on the stage! For he was promptly "Joey" to all of us, from the king upon his throne to the little boy sitting upon his grandpapa's knee in the front row of the pit. It is true that he was described as *Mister* in the playbill; but a man who made people laugh as he did could not really expect to be called *Mister*, or anything, indeed, but "Joey," as we all called him, and as, indeed, he must assuredly have liked to be called. He appeared very soon after the rising of the curtain; but not at first in his clown's dress, but as a comical sort of country squire in a scarlet coat, top-boots, and a three-cornered hat, his face hidden by a hideous mask. But the audience knew him at once; there was something recognisable, I suppose, in the active movements of his arms and hands, in his humorous gait and expressive air. "There's Joey!" everybody seemed to cry at once, and then came the heartiest, merriest tumult of cheers and laughter. The "openings," as they are called, were very brief in those days; the pantomime related chiefly to the harlequinade characters, and the sooner they could commence their frolics and antics the better chance there was of gratifying the spectators. A witch in a black conical hat and a scarlet kirtle rode through the air on the back of a gander; a magical goose waddled round the stage; a large golden egg was thrown into the sea amidst the din of a gong and discordant wails from the orchestra. Presently there came a "transformation" of the characters—not a grand transformation scene—with much tedious pausing while screens are moved away, clouds rise, and flowers open to disclose ballet-girls, as the modern way is; the last scene of all was of old accounted

the fittest opportunity for splendour and display of that sort. And now Joey had assumed his motley dress, with the oddest flaps and frills, shreds and patches; with a crimson cockscomb upon his head, and curious streaks and splashes of colour upon his whitened face. "Here we are again!" he cried, rolling roguish eyes at us, with his toes turned in, and his hands buried deep in his enormous pockets. When he inquired "How are you, to-morrow?" I thought I should have died with laughing, because he seemed to address himself so particularly and pointedly to me, *me* of all people in the pit! Deb was a little frightened, I think. She preferred the glittering harlequin and the graceful columbine; she wished she could have them for brother and sister. But I liked Joey best, and so did the majority of the audience, I am convinced. What a voice he had! It seemed husky with constant laughing, and from repetition of odd cries and utterances to alarm and hoax the pantaloon and the tradespeople, who so readily allowed themselves to be imposed upon and defrauded of their wares. He fell down once or twice, and affected to slip and slide about upon occasions; but he was not a tumbling clown of the modern school; he did not attempt the postures and contortions which people nowadays seem to admire, but which are much more terrifying than entertaining, as I hold. This clown took things more easily and quietly; he amused by glances and gestures, by the drollery of his grimaces, by a certain innocent heartiness which marked his every movement: whether he was filching sausages, pocketing a live squeaking pig, nursing a sawdust-stuffed baby, or scaring the pantaloon with a red-hot poker. And when he laughed—an odd descending scale of merry notes—the whole house laughed with him—laughed until they cried again. He had no policeman to maltreat, remember; for as yet Sir Robert Peel had not instituted the force which has since derived from him sundry slang titles. But practical jokes we had in plenty, with scenes of a farm-yard, of a grocer's shop, a butcher's, a country inn, a market town, a nursery-garden—some fifteen scenes of harlequinade in all, including views of Vauxhall and of St. Dunstan's Church, with the clock figures of Gog and Magog striking the bell.

Well, well; Vauxhall Gardens have departed hence this many a day; and as for St. Dunstan's figures, they left Fleet-street years ago for Lord Hertford's villa in Regent's Park. After all, what are harlequin's changes compared to Time's? Joey has gone with his grins, and his frolics—gone long since. After years, I've been told, poor fellow, of rheumatic agonies, of palsy and paralysis, the penalties incurred by excessive fatigue and over-exertion. Gone, too, are the famous harlequins, Ellar and Bologna; Barnes, the admirable pantaloon; and the beautiful columbines, Mrs. Parker, Miss Vallancey, and Miss Dennett. "Gone are the joys for dancing days," as the old song had it.

Is it the substance that departs and the shadows that remain? Which is really the more with us, the present or the past? Somehow, that old pantomime I witnessed so long since, at little, old Sadler's Wells Theatre, while sitting on my grandsire's knee in the pit, still lingers in my mind, whence all thought has faded of things perhaps far better worth remembering. How young I was then! How old I am now! For that fact has to be admitted. Talk about the seven ages of man! From the schoolboy to the slippered pantaloon it is but a step. And here am I playing the grandfather's part in my turn. And I sit in a private box with my little grandchildren beside me: my pretty Beatrix and my pet Reginald—what names they give children nowadays! And we are seeing a pantomime—and it is my treat—I am fulfilling a promise made some time ago, after shirking it for a while shamefully, I must own, to introduce Rex and Trix to the glories of harlequinade. What is it all about? I declare I don't know. Aladdin or Ali Baba, probably; for if it isn't the one it's usually the other nowadays I notice. It's very splendid, I dare say, and I'm very sleepy, I'm well assured. I remember that when I and poor Deb came to compare notes upon the subject we decided that our grandfather did not enjoy the pantomime half so much as he ought to have done. At most, he only enjoyed our enjoyment of it. Probably my grandchildren will sit in judgment upon me to-morrow, and come to a similar conclusion. And yet they, I think, do not laugh as Deb and I laughed. They are amazed, they are lost in admiration, at the glare of the lights, the glitter of the tinsel, the flood of colour upon the stage, the glories of Dutch metal and foil-paper, the never-ending ballets and the ceaseless songs; but are they merry as we were merry? Oh, for one of Joey Grimaldi's comical chuckles! And where, O, and where is the clown? And what has become of the pantaloon? And their old importance, where is it? The poor souls are permitted no appearance, now, until it is time for the spectators to depart. The change is not only in me. In truth, pantomimes are not what they once were. Shall we go home now, dears? Are you tired? Have you had enough of it? No, not they. They are intent upon waiting to see the green curtain descend again. And yet we've sat here, how many mortal hours! After all, while so many things are altering, undergoing improvement and development and transformation, it is a sort of comfort to find that childhood is childhood still. So Trix and Rex still keep their eyes fixed upon the stage, while I turn away, I confess, with a disposition to muse, and even to slumber, coming over me. At last I am released. Let us hasten homewards. Bless the children! they won't own to being wearied in the least. Trix is full of the beautiful fables, and Rex is laughing—absolutely laughing—at the old joke of picking up of pantaloon by the merest pinch of his nether garments, and they avow themselves ready to see it all over again if I will only give them the chance! No, thank you, my dears. I think not. Grandpapa has seen his Last Pantomime.

Mr. Harris, clerk to the magistrates at Sittingbourn, has been elected a Coroner for Kent; and Mr. Edgar Gable, of Farnham, one of the Coroners for Hants.

The Duke of Richmond and Gordon was, last week, entertained at luncheon by his tenant on the Goodwood estate, and was presented by them with his portrait, painted by Sir Francis Grant, as a mark of their regard and esteem.

A large number of the leading citizens of Dundee assembled last Saturday to witness the opening of the Convalescent Home, the funds of the building and endowment of which were bequeathed by Sir David Baxter, Bart., merchant, Dundee, uncle of Mr. W. E. Baxter, M.P. for the Montrose Burghs. It has been erected in the suburbs, at a cost of £10,000, and will accommodate fifty persons, who are to be admitted by the infirmity directors; £20,000 have been left for its maintenance.

An influential meeting was held, last Saturday afternoon, at Carlisle, to promote a memorial to the late Mr. George Moore—Lord Muncaster, M.P., presided. It was resolved that steps should be at once taken to raise a suitable memorial, and a committee was appointed to consider what form it should assume. It was made an instruction to the committee to examine a scheme projected by Mr. Moore, by which he had intended to devote £12,000 to the foundation of scholarships in elementary schools in Cumberland and Westmorland.





MY FIRST PANTOMIME—WHEN MY GRANDFATHER TOOK US CHILDREN TO SADLER'S WELLS. BY F. BARNARD.





MY LAST PANTOMIME—WHEN I TOOK MY GRANDCHILDREN TO COVENT GARDEN. BY F. BARNARD



## OBITUARY OF EMINENT PERSONS.

## ADMIRAL SIR BURTON MACNAMARA.

Admiral Sir Burton Macnamara, J.P., died, on the 12th inst., at his residence, 22, Merrion-square North, Dublin, in his eighty-third year. He was born in 1794, the youngest son of Francis Macnamara, Esq., of Doolen, in the county of Clare, by Jane, his wife, daughter of George Stamer, Esq., of Carnelly, in the county of Clare, and was brother of Major William Nugent Macnamara, of Doolen, so long M.P. for Clare. Sir Burton entered the Royal Navy in 1808, on board the Edgar, seventy-four, and was present at the capture of Danish vessels in the harbour of Nybourg. He served on the lakes of Canada up to the end of the American war, and commanded the Chanticleer in the Grecian Archipelago. In 1825 he was appointed Inspecting Commander of Coastguards, attained the rank of Vice-Admiral in 1863, and became Admiral on the Reserved List in 1867. He was knighted by the Marquis of Normanby, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, in 1839. He married, in 1832, Catharine, daughter of Daniel Gabbett, Esq., of Strand, in the county of Limerick.

## GENERAL THE HON. WILLIAM ARBUTHNOTT.

General the Hon. William Arbuthnott, late R.A., died on the 14th inst. He was fifth son of John, seventh Viscount Arbuthnott, by Isabella, his wife, daughter of William Graham, Esq., of Morphee, in the county of Kincardine, and was consequently brother of the late General the Hon. Sir Hugh Arbuthnott, M.P., and uncle of John, present Viscount Arbuthnott. He attained the rank of full General in 1873.

## SIR BRYAN EDWARDS.

Sir Bryan Edwards, late Chief Justice of Jamaica, died at Eltham Pen, Spanish Town, in that island, on the 6th inst. He was born in 1799, called to the Bar by the Hon. Society of the Middle Temple in 1825, was appointed Chief Justice of Jamaica, and received the honour of knighthood in 1859.

## SIR CHARLES TURNER.

Sir Charles Robert Turner, Knight, late Senior Master of the Court of Queen's Bench, died at his residence, Chester-terrace, Regent's Park, on the 13th inst. He was born in 1789, the fifth son of the Rev. Richard Turner, Vicar of Great Yarmouth, by Elizabeth his wife, daughter of Thomas Rede, Esq., of Beccles. Early in life he practised as a solicitor, but in 1829 he was called to the Bar, and in 1839 was appointed one of the Masters in the Court of Queen's Bench. He retired in 1870, and received the honour of knighthood the following year. Sir Charles married, in 1816, Judith, daughter of the late Charles Onley Harvey, Esq., afterwards Charles Onley Onley, Esq., of Stisted Hall, Essex, M.P.

## WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will, dated Oct. 19, 1875, of Mr. Edward Whetham Allpress, formerly of San José, Costa Rica, and late of Cliefden, Eltham, Kent, who died on the 14th ult., was proved on the 2nd inst. by Mrs. Ana Joaquina Allpress, the widow, Arthur Charles Rhodes and Benjamin Abbot Lyon, the executors, the personal estate in England being sworn under £60,000. The testator bequeaths to his wife his house at Eltham, with the furniture, plate, and effects, horses, carriages, and £5000, and recites that the reason of his not making any further provision for her is that he had just made a considerable settlement on her; to his sister, Miss Augusta Ellen Allpress, an annuity of £150; to his cousin, Miss Hockley Ellen Bishop, £1000 and an annuity of £150, and to each of his executors £200. The testator directs all his property in Costa Rica to be realised and transmitted to England, and the whole residue of his estate he gives to his children.

The will and codicil, dated July 26, 1867, and Dec. 9, 1875, of Mr. Oliver William Farrer, late of Binnegar Hall, Wareham, Dorset, who died on the 6th ult., were proved on the 29th ult. by Henry Richard Farrer, the brother, William James Farrer, and Oliver Cooke Farrer, the son, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £40,000. The testator leaves to his wife, Mrs. Emily Charlotte Hannah Farrer, his furniture, plate, pictures, horses, carriages, and £500; to each of his brothers and sisters, £50; to his brother James and his heirs his interest in a farm at Rantree Top, near Clapham, Yorkshire; and the income of the residue of his property to his wife for life. On her death his younger children take between them such sum as, with the amount secured to them under testator's marriage settlement, will make up £30,000; and the remainder of his property, including the Binnegar Hall estate, goes to his eldest son, Oliver Cooke Farrer.

The will, dated Sept. 4, 1876, of Mrs. Mary Barstow, late of No. 10, North Crescent, Bedford-square, who died on the 24th ult., was proved on the 8th inst. by Louis Stuckenschmidt, the sole executor, the personal estate being sworn under £25,000. The testatrix bequeaths to the London City Mission, Bridewell-place, New Bridge-street, £6400 for the purpose of founding and providing for four missionaries; for the establishment and endowment of two scholarships of equal value for the advancement of legal education to be named after her late husband, Mr. James Barstow, one of the Benchers of Gray's Inn, and in memory of his great attachment to his profession, £4500; to the North London, or University College, Hospital, £200; to the National Refuges for Destitute and Homeless Children, ragged and industrial schools, now at No. 19, Broad-street, St. Giles's, and the London Homoeopathic Hospital, Great Ormond-street, £100 each; and to the Universal Beneficent Society, Soho-square, £50, all free of duty. There are numerous other legacies; and the residue she leaves to her executor, Mr. Stuckenschmidt.

The will, dated Aug. 27, 1875, of General Sir John Bell, G.C.B., who died at No. 55, Cadogan-place, on the 20th ult., was proved on the 11th inst. by Charles Davidson Bell, the nephew, the sole executor, the personal estate being sworn under £25,000. The testator directs certain specific stocks to be held upon trust for his brother Alexander for life, and, subject thereto, gives all his property to his said nephew.

The will, dated March 18, 1873, of Mrs. Jane Hancock, late of Calverley House, Surbiton, who died, on the 7th ult., at Brighton, was proved on the 22nd ult. by Joseph Jennings, the brother, and John Harrison Watson, the acting executors, the personal estate being sworn under £20,000.

The will and two codicils, dated Aug. 31, 1855, Dec. 13, 1874, and July 6, 1875, of Major-General Sir Thomas Seaton, K.C.B., late of Ackworth House, East Bergholt, Suffolk, who died on Sept. 11 last, at Chaton, near Paris, were proved on the 22nd ult. by Colonel William Godfrey Dunham Massey, the son-in-law of the deceased, the acting executor, the personal estate being sworn under £1500.

A meeting of the Irish Judges, of the members of both branches of the legal profession, and of leading citizens, was held at the Four Courts in Dublin, yesterday week, to take preliminary measures for raising a suitable memorial to the late Chief Justice Whiteside. The establishment of exhibitions and the erection of a monument in the hall of the Four Courts were suggested, and a committee was appointed.

## CHESS.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

C. EGERS (Broad-street).—The position marked No. 4 is very well constructed, and shall have early insertion. No. 4 is not bad, but we want your best efforts.  
J. A. W. H. (Edinburgh).—The three-pawn position is neat, but it is much too obvious. There is no variety either of attack or defence. We shall be obliged if you will send copies of the positions referred to.  
J. C. (Glasgow).—Have you not overlooked the defence Q to Kt 5th? We see no mate in three moves in that case.  
H. E. B. (New York).—Thanks for the game, and the gratifying intelligence that accompanied it.  
G. L. de Bora (Heerenveen).—We have noted your correction of the problem, which shall be further examined.  
J. A. (Cawnpore).—The first problem is well conceived; but there is, unfortunately, no mate in three moves if Black plays B to Q 3rd (ch) on the first move. The pair enclosed in your second letter are too elementary for our readers.  
T. GUEST (Smethwick).—In your proposed dual solution of No. 1713 you appear to have ignored the Black B at Q 7th. After Kt takes B, White cannot mate next move.  
PROBLEM No. 1711.—Correct solutions received from A. Wood, J. H. Skelton, G. Neumann, Triton, Eaton, A. Auser, W. M. G. Robson, C. Cotman, and Bailey.  
PROBLEM No. 1712.—Correct solutions received from A. Wood, W. F. Payne, Owlet, Art, Black Knight, P. Clarkson, G. Neumann, G. Bodman, J. G. Finch, Wastead, R. B. Emilio Frau, R. H. B. T. R. Y. Triton, Oxon, Red Cross, A. S. Winchester, Cuelst, M. N. Rotomago, G. H. V. E. H. V. Latta, W. W. M. Novice Neworth, J. K. G. A. Rankine, C. Eggers Inkberrow, C. H. J. M. S. Lee, Bonny Dundee, Bailey, and T. Guest.

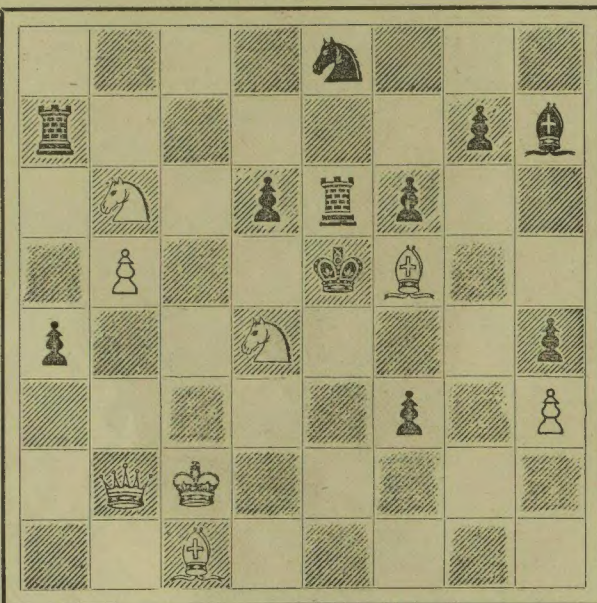
## SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1712.

WHITE.	BLACK.	WHITE.	BLACK.
1. Kt to Q 3rd	P moves	3. K to B 5th.	Mate.
2. K to Kt 5th	K takes Kt		

## PROBLEM No. 1714.

By J. W. ABBOTT.

## BLACK.



## WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

## THE "NEW YORK CLIPPER" TOURNAMENT.

The special prize for "brilliant" play in the above contest, a silver cup, was awarded to Mr. Bird, the well-known London amateur, on the 27th ult. The decision of the committee, which was unanimous, was based upon Mr. Bird's play against Mr. Mason, of New York, and the following hitherto unpublished game with Mr. Clarke, of Brooklyn.

## (French Opening.)

WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. C.)	WHITE (Mr. B.)	BLACK (Mr. C.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 3rd	22. R to K 2nd	R to B 3rd
2. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	23. P to B 4th	Kt to B sq
3. P takes P	P takes P	24. B to B 2nd	B to K 3rd
4. Kt to K B 3rd	Kt to K B 3rd	25. P to K Kt 4th	P takes P
5. B to Q 3rd	B to Q 3rd	26. P takes P	R to B sq
6. Castles	Castles	27. R to K 2nd	B to K sq
7. Kt to Q B 3rd	Kt to Q B 3rd	28. P to Kt 5th	R to Q 3rd
The best line of play at this point is		29. R to K B sq	R to B 2nd
7. P to B 3rd, followed by B to K 3d, or		30. Q to R B 2nd	B to R 2nd
B to Kt 5th.		31. R to Kt 2nd	Q to B sq
8. B to Kt 5th	B to K 2nd		
9. P to K R 3rd	P to K R 3rd		
10. B to R 4th	Kt to R 2nd		
11. B takes B	Kt takes B		
12. Kt to K R 4th	P to K B 4th		
13. R to K sq	P to Q B 3rd		
14. Q to K 2nd	R to B 2nd		
15. Kt to Q R 4th	P to Q Kt 3rd		
16. P to Q B 4th	B to Q 2nd		
17. Kt to Q B 3rd	K to R sq		
18. Kt to B 3rd	Kt to Kt 3rd		
19. P takes P	Kt to B 5th		
20. Q to K 3rd	Kt takes P		
21. Kt takes Kt	P takes Kt		
22. Kt to K 5th			

Down to this point the game has been played with a degree of caution that merits little "brilliance" on either side. White has now, however, secured a distinct advantage in position, and pursues the attack with characteristic vigour.

It would have been better to have exchanged the bishops at once.

The last few moves of White, preparing the ground for the sacrifice, are played in Mr. Bird's happiest style.

Here White announces mate in five moves, as follows:—

R takes B (ch) K to Kt sq  
R to R 5th (ch) K takes R  
Q to R 3rd (ch) K to Kt sq  
Q to R 7th (ch), and mates N at move.

## CHESS IN GERMANY.

An amusing Skirmish, that occurred in September last, between Mr. S. HAMEL, of Nottingham, and Herr TROBACH, one of the best players in Berlin.—(The King's Bishop's Game.)

WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Herr T.)	WHITE (Mr. M.)	BLACK (Herr T.)
1. P to K 4th	P to K 4th	19. P to Q 4th	P takes P
2. B to B 4th	Kt to K B 3rd	20. P to K 5th	Kt takes B
3. P to Q 3rd	B to B 4th	21. P takes Kt	B to B 4th
Black may also play 3. P to Q 4th with advantage.		22. Q to Kt 3rd	
4. Kt to K B 3rd	P to Q 3rd	Threatening 23. R to R 5th (ch), after which Black must submit to the loss of a piece, or be mated off-hand.	
5. B to Kt 5th	P to K R 3rd	22. R to R 5th	P to Q 4th
6. B to R 4th	P to Kt 4th	23. R to R 5th	R to Kt 2nd
7. B to Kt 3rd	B to Kt 5th	24. Q to R sq	K to B 2nd
8. P to B 3rd	Kt to Kt 3rd	25. Kt takes P (at Q 4th)	B to Kt 5th
9. Q Kt to Q 2nd	P to Q R 3rd	26. P to K 6th (ch)	B takes P
10. Q to Kt 3rd	Castles	27. R to B sq (ch)	
11. P to K R 4th	Kt to K R 4th	And Black resigns because if the K is played to K 2nd, White wins the Q by Kt takes Q B P (ch); if to Kt 3rd, White mates in four moves, by 24. Q to R 3rd (ch), 25. R to R sq (ch), &c., and if anything else White wins a piece at once.	
12. P takes P	P takes P		
13. Castles (Q R)	P to Kt 4th		
14. B to Q 5th	P to Q B 4th		
15. Q to B 2nd	B takes Kt P		
16. P to Q Kt 4th	R takes B		
17. B takes P (ch)	Kt to Kt 2nd		
18. P takes B			

## CHESS INTELLIGENCE.

The chessplayers of Northumberland and Durham have arranged to hold a meeting at Newcastle-on-Tyne on Tuesday next, the 26th inst., under the presidency of the Earl of Ravensworth. Besides exhibitions of blindfold and simultaneous play, there will be a handicap tourney of thirty-two players, each paying an entrance-fee of five shillings. In this competition, the play in which is expected to extend over two days, eight prizes, varying in amount from five pounds to ten shillings, will be provided, from the local subscriptions and competitor's fees.

The Handicap Tournament of the October Term at the Cambridge University Chess Club was brought to a conclusion last week. Ten competitors entered the lists, viz.:—First class: J. T. C. Chatto, Trinity; W. H. Gunston, St. John's. Second class: D. C. M. Lunt, Caius; C. Chapman, St. John's. Third class: T. W. Tonkin, A. Haigh, St. John's; W. H. Blythe, Jesus; T. C. Shirley, Clare; W. H. Jennings, Corpus; and A. W. C. Peskett, Caius. According to the conditions of the tourney, the players in the first class gave the odds of pawn and two moves to those in the second, and the Kt to those in the third. The first prize, which was of nominal value only, was won by Mr. J. T. C. Chatto, of Trinity.

## ILLUSTRATED CHRISTMAS BOOKS.

The publications which offer combined literary and artistic or graphic attractions are not very numerous this year, but sufficiently varied to meet the probable demand. Some of them we have noticed; others now demand a brief sentence of appreciation, which is all that our space will here admit.

The first turn is rightfully due to a distinguished R.A. who presents us with his *Leaves from My Sketch-Book* (published by Murray). It is Mr. E. W. Cooke, the esteemed painter of landscape and sea pieces. He has chosen, perhaps inadvertently, a title for this pleasant little volume which might lead to a slight mistake. We must remind him of the published collection, selected last year from our own pages, of small vignettes wood-engravings, drawn by Mr. S. Read, which represented quaint and picturesque bits of architecture in some thirty old towns of Great Britain and the Continent. That volume was called "Leaves from a Sketch-Book," its contents having appeared under that name, during the past thirteen years, in many of our weekly Numbers. Mr. Cooke's sketches are reproduced in a series of twenty-six lithographs, with some minor illustrations of details. They consist principally of entire views in foreign cities, Paris, Rome, Florence, and Venice, with the best aspects of street or piazza, bridge or riverside quay, or noble building; one or two German examples of mediæval architecture, and a couple of Alpine scenes; followed by half a dozen views of Alexandria and the Nile. Short descriptions of each subject are given, and Mr. Cooke promises a second series of sketches from Egypt.

The endearing associations of *Home Life in England* will surely win favour to a publication of that name by Virtue and Co. It consists of sixteen good steel engravings from some of the most agreeable pictures of our good English artists, Constable, Lee, Nasmyth, T. Cooper, J. M. W. Turner, Linnell, Collins, F. Goodall, and Birket Foster, presenting views of English rural scenery, or groups of figures employed in the labours and pastimes of rustic life. Turner's "Frosty Morning" and "View on the Thames" are in this collection, and "Evening in the Meadows," by Lee and Cooper. The accompanying writer, whose *nom de plume* is "Oliver Mount Waver-tree," has a light and skilful touch.

More consecutive reading, upon a very congenial theme, will be found in Mr. Alfred Rimmer's pleasing book, *Ancient Streets and Homesteads of England* (Macmillan and Co.). It is adorned with a hundred and fifty illustrations, drawn by the author, and engraved by Mr. J. D. Cooper. The Dean of Chester, the Very Rev. Dr. Howson, contributes an introduction, which is the more appropriate, since the curious architectural antiquities of Chester are the first subject here displayed. Shrewsbury and other towns in Shropshire, Hereford, Worcester, Gloucester, and Tewkesbury, Exeter, Salisbury, Winchester, Canterbury, Oxford, Norwich, Ely, Huntingdon, Leicester, Warwick, Lincoln, York, Durham, Newcastle, Hexham, Carlisle, Lancaster, and many of the notable old towns and mansions in their respective shires, are taken by pen and pencil in this circuit of Old England; the woodcuts are prettily finished.

The pretensions of another work upon the same class of topics are much humbler; but it may be, nevertheless, acceptable to some young people. *Around and About Old England* is the title of this volume, in which Miss Clara Matéaux chats freely enough upon the traditional stories and memories belonging to many famous old places in our country, such as Hastings, Dover, Thanet, Rochester, Carisbrook, St. Albans, Kenilworth, the New Forest, Stratford-on-Avon, Oxford, Windsor, the Wash, the Fens, and other localities of historic note, with the peculiarities of the different seacoasts and of the iron, coal, and pottery districts. The publishers, Messrs. Cassell, Petter, and Galpin, have put together for this purpose a miscellaneous lot of old engravings.

A valuable standard book of reference for the history of Art is published by Messrs. Sampson Low, Marston, Searle, and Rivington. It is *A Brief History of the Painters of All Schools*, partly translated from the work of M. Louis Viardot, "Les Merveilles de la Peinture," partly compiled from several books of approved merit and authority, the works of Kugler, Crowe and Cavalcaselle, Le Monnier's Vasari, Charles Blanc, and Mr. Wornum's Catalogue of the National Gallery. The treatment of this extensive subject is biographical and critical, and it ranges over all the ancient and modern schools of every nation, from Zeuxis and Apelles to the English artists most lately deceased. The latter class of notices are so meagre that they might as well have been spared. The volume, which is finely printed, is illustrated with many engravings on steel and wood, in a superior style of execution.

The same publishers have brought out a translation, by Mr. John Peto, of the *Notes and Sketches of an Architect in the North-west of Europe*, by M. Felix Narjoux, with above two hundred wood-engravings. It is the record of an interesting and instructive tour of studious observation, but not too professional or technical, through Holland, Hanover, and Denmark, describing the chief buildings of the principal cities and towns. Those of Belgium are not comprised in this tour, which by no means exhausts what is to be found in "the north-west of Europe." It might have been preferable to have abridged the writing of the French author, and struck out his comments upon German social life and manners, which are not in the best taste. This is, perhaps, a fitting opportunity to mention *A Handbook of Architectural Styles*, translated by Mr. W. Collett Sanders from the German of Rosengarten (Chapman and Hall, publishers). It seems to be a very complete and accurate treatise, though most of our present students of architecture would be disposed to reject the author's critical standpoint with regard to the historical development of that noble art. Rosengarten is essentially an academic professor of the Greek and Roman classical school, and he looks upon Gothic as a mere variety of the Romanesque. His style is dry and peremptory; but he is, no doubt, a learned man in his way. The volume is furnished with nearly 700 illustrations.

We must defer, till better leisure, an adequate review of Miss Amelia Edwards's very beautiful book of Egyptian travel, *A Thousand Miles Up the Nile* (Longmans). It is the handsomest in appearance, the most original in authorship, subject, motive, and occasion, and enriched with the most valuable illustrations, of all the books we have noticed. The engravings on wood, to the number of seventy or more, from drawings by Miss Edwards, are executed in a manner which does much credit to Mr. G. Pearson; the paper and printing are superbly fine, and the fair binding in white and gold has its charm of simple elegance. We have not yet had time to read the book.

Six survivors of the crew of the *Evening Star*, a vessel mustering seventeen hands, have arrived at Cardiff with the intelligence that their ship was wrecked during a storm at Little Caymen, one of the West India Islands, in the middle of August last, and that the captain, chief mate, and nine of the sailors had perished.



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